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PRICE TWO CENTS.

FELLED BY WORKMAN

S. L. P. Man May Die From Assault.

KARL MALMBERG THE VICTIM

Hit on the Head With Iron Bar—Assault Was the Outcome of Conditions Prevailing in "L" Repair Shop—Men of Different Nationalities Are Pitted Against Each Other and Jealousies Fostered—Men in the Shop Told to Keep Mum About the Affair—Company Refuses Information.

On Tuesday Karl Malmberg, one of the best known of the Swedish party members, was assaulted and probably fatally injured by a fellow workman, William Cahill, of 1543 Third avenue. Malmberg, who lives with his brother at 101 West 100th street, was employed in the electrical department of the "L" repair shops at Ninety-ninth street and Lexington avenue. Yesterday, about 1:30, Malmberg spoke to Cahill, who had been drinking, and asked him for a wrench which Cahill had in his possession. Cahill refused to give it, and grew threatening. Malmberg, who was the personification of good nature, laughingly insisted that the other surrender the wrench as it was needed at once. Thereupon Cahill turned on him and said: "You damned square head, take that." He swung on Malmberg with a short iron bar, and felled him to the floor. The bar penetrated Malmberg's skull, causing a compound fracture. The assailant fled, and to a late hour had not been captured.

Malmberg was taken to the Harlem Hospital, and at midnight it was reported that he was unconscious, and that the chances for his recovery were very slight. Nothing definite could be said until the full extent of the injury was ascertained.

The trouble has been developing for some time, and during the past week there have been several fights among the men in the shop. One cause of the friction seems to be the high position taken by the Swedish workmen. This has resulted in ill feeling and clashes, and the bosses have taken advantage of them, but the first serious fray was that which took place yesterday. But that was only a portion, a violent outbreak of what has long been smoldering. In fact it is a veritable race war that has been raging, and its location in a large establishment of this character shows the real foundation of all race wars.

After the assault Cahill fled. In the neighborhood it is said that he has had a bad reputation, and in saloons has frequently been heard to express his dislike for the Swedes, and also express his determination to smash a Swede wherever found.

After the affair was over the foreman of the establishment demanded that the men keep silent on it, and he threatened with instant discharge anyone who dared to talk on the subject. The result was that at the office no information would be given, and outside the detail was of the most meagre kind. One man, however, rather bitterly said: "It had to come." They have been pitting the Swedes against the Irishman, and the Irishman against the whole of them. The result is they all hate one another and would pounce on one another at the drop of the hat if the damned job did not stand in the way. Even this man, boiling over with indignation, and with a dim idea of what the basis of the trouble was, became mute when pressed for definite information.

Another man said: "This is an Irish neighborhood. It was an Irishman did it. Let's see you get anything about it from anyone. The only thing about it is that it is a wonder that it did not happen before. And it will be a great deal more of a wonder if it don't happen again."

The command of the bosses for the men to keep their mouths shut was absolutely obeyed, and according to people in the vicinity it was remarkable how scarce men from the electrical department were. They had taken to their houses, and refused to come out. A reporter called at the houses of six men in this department, but they all refused to be seen. They must have anticipated visitors, because in each case they had a guard ready to give the information that they were not at home. This, too, may have been because of authoritative commands.

Karl Malmberg was one of the most fearless and aggressive Socialists in the S. L. P. He came to this country about two years ago, and though only about 26 years of age has been interested in the movement both in his native and adopted countries. His brother is also a Socialist, and his sister, Olive Johnson, of Minneapolis, Minn., will be remembered as a frequent contributor of scientific articles to the PEOPLE.

Malmberg was an excellent writer in Swedish and frequently contributed articles and poems to the Swedish official organ "Arbetaren."

HANNA COMING.

He and Mitchell to Have a Preliminary Conference.

Shamokin, Pa., March 25.—President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, said to-day that he has decided for the present not to announce the names of the fourteen men selected to seek the aid of the Civic Federation in securing an "amicable" settlement of the differences between the mine workers and the operators. It is not at all certain that this committee will have occasion to visit New York on a "peace" mission.

The programme as now prepared provides for a preliminary conference in New York between President Mitchell, the three district presidents and the Conciliation Committee of the Civic Federation. An effort will be made by these committees to arrange a meeting between the operators and the mine workers' Committee of Fourteen. Should the operators decline to meet the committee, there will be no necessity for its members to visit New York. In any event the four presidents will report the result of their efforts to the district executive boards before further action is taken.

President Mitchell and District President T. D. Nichols were in communication with the principal operators in New York yesterday, and received their refusal in the afternoon. Thereupon the following telegram was sent:—

Hon. M. A. Hanna, Chairman Industrial Department, National Civic Federation:—

Anthracite mine workers have failed in their efforts to effect settlement of wage scale, and have declared for a suspension of work, to take effect upon a date to be designated by district officers. I am directed to appeal to industrial department of Civic Federation for its intervention to avert threatened industrial conflict.

JOHN MITCHELL,

President United Mine Workers of America.

The grievances of the miners will be presented to the committee of which Senator Hanna is chairman by a committee of fourteen miners, one for each of 10,000 workers, appointed to act in conjunction with the national and district presidents. In the event of the Civic Federation failing to adjust the trouble before April 1, and if negotiations are then pending, the miners will be ordered to suspend work on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. The companies say they will close down if a partial strike occurs until the men are ready to accept the operators' terms.

The purpose of suspending work three days in each week to prevent the storage of coal by the companies by producing an amount sufficient only to supply the existing needs of the market.

Ralph M. Easley, of the Civic Federation, announced yesterday that the Conciliation Committee of the federation will hold a special session at half-past ten o'clock this morning, at No. 281 Fourth avenue, to consider the threatened strike of the miners.

Easley said that Senator Hanna had wired from Washington Monday night that he would be present. Others who will probably attend are Bishop Potter, Oscar S. Straus, Charles A. Moore, Frank P. Sargent, James Duncan, John Mitchell and Franklin McVeagh. The Federation officers have been keeping in touch with the leaders of the miners. There is a general belief here that a strike will not occur and that the miners are ready to accept a small part of their demands.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 25.—Coal operators here predict that if the strike order becomes general there will be a coal famine in all the large Eastern industrial centers. Said one:—

"There has been a tight coal market all winter. At no time in the last five months have the hard coal fields been sending to market as much of that kind of fuel as was needed. Not many of the big industrial plants have much of a supply on hand at this time. I know where two refineries have been compelled to change their furnaces so as to burn soft coal, because they could not depend upon securing supplies of anthracite. At Port Richmond, where usually thousands of tons are in storage, you cannot now find much more than a few hundred tons."

Velvet Weavers Strike.

South Manchester, Conn., March 25.—Fifty men employed in the velvet weaving department of the Cheney Silk Mills went out on strike to-day because of an announced change in the price paid for piece work. A notice posted by the management said that the price per yard for weaving, to men running two looms, would be twelve cents. Heretofore men running one loom each have received eighteen cents a yard. The plan of having a weaver run two looms, which has been tried experimentally of late, is made possible by recent improvements in the machines.

There was a prospect this morning that other velvet weavers in the mills would join the strikers unless the differences were soon adjusted. About 3,500 persons are employed in the plant.

Chicago Engravers on Strike.

Chicago, March 25.—Two hundred members of the Commercial Artists' Association, employed in fourteen of the principal engraving houses of the city, went on strike early to-day because their employers refused to sign an agreement regulating hours, wages and the employment of apprentices. The principal points of the proposed agreement are already recognized by many of the employers.

CIVIC FEDERATION AGAIN.

THIS TIME IT "SETTLES" PAPER TRADE WORKERS.

Prepared to Strike Against Employer's Exactions They Go Back to Work Under Old Conditions Pending an Adjustment of Grievances.

The Hanna-Gompers National Civic Federation claims to have averted another big strike. This time it is a strike in the paper trade which was to have started Saturday night and which it is said might have seriously hampered nearly every newspaper in the East. The strike, so they claim, would have affected ultimately about 50,000 men employed in twenty or thirty paper mills.

The principal mills involved in the dispute were those of the International Paper Company, the Great Northern Paper Company, Parsons & Company, and the Taggart Paper Company.

The agreement which "prevented" the strike was reached Saturday at a conference lasting from 11 a. m. until 2 p. m. in the office of the National Civic Federation, Mission Building, Fourth avenue and Twenty-second street, which was attended by representatives of the federation, the companies, and the workers. The federation was represented by Oscar S. Straus, Vice President; Harry Korkowinsky (White), General Secretary of the United Garment Workers, and Ralph M. Easley.

The workers were represented at the conference by W. C. Moulton, Chisholm, Mo., President of the International Paper Machine Tenders' Union, George New York, represented the International Mackay, President of the United Brotherhood of Paper Hangers of America, and Herman Robinson, General Organizer of the American Federation of Labor. General Superintendent F. H. Parks, New York, represented the International Paper Company; W. B. Dillon, New York, represented the Great Northern Paper Company; Parsons & Company were represented by David Coles, and G. C. Sherman represented the Taggart Paper Company.

For several months back there has been friction in a number of the mills and individual strikes have taken place. For some time back the mills had been running six days a week continuously in two shifts, or "tours," as they are called, of twelve hours each. Six months ago the unions demanded a sixty-five-hour working week by shutting the mills down from 6 o'clock on Saturday night to 7 o'clock on Monday morning. Some of the firms granted the demand and later the Great Northern Company tried to introduce a three-four system by which there would be three continuous tours of eight hours, seven days in the week. Though this meant fewer hours of work, the company with this new arrangement raised the wages a trifle per week, as it enabled it to turn out more paper.

The question of working on Sunday came up, and it was found that the unions had a rule against Sunday labor. They demanded the old system back. Other demands were made on the other companies, and eventually a deadlock resulted which led to the decision to start general strikes, beginning with Saturday night.

At the conference it was decided to call off all strikes, everything to remain as at present, and take no action until the annual meeting of the two unions representing the workers, which takes place in May. At this conference it is believed matters will be so arranged that there will be a uniformity in conditions all round which will be followed by the signing of agreements for a year with all the employers. Recently the companies, fearing strikes which would affect the market, withdrew their quotations for paper.

Watched by British Spies.

Paterson, March 25.—Thomas D. de Scally, an Afrikaner, who came to this city eight days ago, says that he is being watched by three British spies. He is boarding in a house at 74 Hamilton avenue, and three men have been hanging around that street near the house.

De Scally says he fought against the British in the present Boer war. He is an expert telegraph operator. He says he was sent to Europe as a representative of the Boer government. He made speeches and otherwise advocated the interests of the Boers. In Holland, he says, he had an interview with President Kruger, and came directly from his presence to this country. He asserts that from the moment he left Mr. Kruger he has been shadowed by British spies. He says that they have not molested him yet.

For a Department of Commerce and Labor.

Washington, March 25.—The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce to-day began consideration of the proposition to create a department of commerce and labor, and heard arguments on the subject from a large number of representative business men.

Among those who attended the hearing were prominent representatives of the leading commercial bodies. No labor organizations were represented.

The arguments were all in favor of the Nelson bill, which has already passed the Senate, which incorporates into the new department the life saving service, light house service, marine hospital, bureaus of navigation, immigration, statistics and foreign commerce, fish commission and department of labor. Two new bureaus are created—those of mining and manufactures.

FLORENCE KROLL MISSING.

May Have Assumed Name of Rosky.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 24.—O. F. Kroll of No. 18 Woblers avenue reports that his daughter Florence, a pretty girl, 15 years old, has been missing from home since March 7th. The parents of the missing girl say that she has recently been wayward in her inclinations and refused to attend school. They are deeply grieved over the absence of their daughter and have implored the police to use utmost diligence in attempting to gain some information as to her whereabouts.

At the time she left home she wore a black chiffon hat trimmed with pink roses and black velvet; a black velvet coat; heavy soled shoes with a "queen quality" label inside. The missing girl has a fair complexion, light hair and blue eyes. There are two scars, not plainly distinguishable, under her right jaw. She is five feet four inches tall and weighs about 118 pounds. She is but 15 years old, but easily looks two years older.

The girl is the granddaughter of Henry Waldmann of Section Buffalo, S. L. P., an active and esteemed member of the organization. The girl speaks good English and German; she may have assumed the name of Rosky. Any reader of this paper discovering such a girl in any part of the country is requested to communicate promptly with Henry Waldmann, 800 Genesee street, Buffalo, N. Y.

TRACK WORKERS MAY STRIKE.

Pennsylvania Section Hands Want As Much As Trolley Employees.

Newark, March 25.—It is probable that the Pennsylvania company will have to face the possibility of a general strike of section hands on the New York division. For some time past efforts have been made on the part of the men to complete a general organization, with a view of compelling the payment of higher wages.

Yesterday committees composed of one man of each section gang waited upon the supervisors of the various divisions and demanded \$1.50 per day of ten hours' work. Coupled with the request was an ultimatum to the effect that if the demands of the men were not complied with the men would quit work on the steam railroads.

The men claim that the trolley roads now in course of construction throughout the State pay \$1.50 a day of ten hours, and that the section hands on steam railroads are paid less than such work commands in other fields.

The plans for the formal demands upon the company has been under consideration for some time, and positive action was brought about by the evidences of prosperity in every branch of the railroad administration. The men claim that with increased business and the ability to spend millions of dollars in improvements should go a willingness to pay the section hands a rate of wages equal to that paid by other employers of such labor. The men are now paid \$1.20 for ten hours, or twelve cents an hour.

It is not known what action the railroad company will take upon the demand, and it is also known just to what extent the men are organized. An effort was made to have the formal demand made simultaneously yesterday by the men of every section. So far as can be learned the demand was not simultaneous, and in some sections, especially those where the men employed are residents of the locality, the demand has not yet been made. Several supervisors who were questioned about the matter refused to discuss it, or to admit or deny the rumor that a general strike was impending.

List to the yap of the yahoos: "Child labor, enslaved by the trust and chained to machines, produces the Trust cigars." The trust cigars are the production of child labor aided by machinery, and the wealth wrung from the labor of children who ought to be in school is now being used by the Cigar Trust to advertise their unclean product. No man who knows the facts regarding these factories will buy them. No one who realizes the monstrous evil to society from child labor will have anything to do with them. Everybody concerned about fair wages and decent conditions of employment is heartily engaged in making war upon and exposing the real character and methods of the trust.

To purchase the Trust cigars is to endorse the methods of the Cigar Trust; to smoke them is to express indifference to the slavery of children on one hand and to the idleness of fathers of families on the other. Every citizen is vitally interested in this matter. Let all do their duty in making the truth known.

"Down with child labor and the Trust!"—Union Labor Advocate.

The trust employs machines—smash the machines; the trust is a trust and is crushing out the little fellow—smash the trust. That is the recognized policy of the leaders of the pure and simple union. The trust employs children because the I. C. U. votes almost solidly (including No. 90) to allow the trust to employ them. Their action is that of a crowd of cowards who try to shift the responsibility, when they alone are guilty, and should bear the whole blame.

Company Certainly Was Good to Them, But Why?

Providence, R. I., March 25.—The important business meeting of the union employees of the Union Railroad Company begun last night did not adjourn until nearly daylight and before the sitting closed the men decided not to take any radical action at present.

A feature of the all night proceedings was the action of the management of the road in placing special cars at the disposal of the men who attended the meetings.

THE CIRCUS.

"THE CLASS STRUGGLE NOBLY WAGED" WITH UNPRINTABLE EPIETHETS.

The Suspension of the Brewers Union Confirmed—Blood Curdling Conflict Between Paper-Hangers and Painters—Hearst An Actor-Barbers' "Wide Open" Sunday—Congressmen "Deplore" Their Inability to Help Letter Carriers—Franklin Association Grievances—Grand Fanfare Finale of Flats and Epithets Closing With an Adagio Piano of Handshakes.

The brewers and engineers fight was renewed yesterday afternoon at the meeting of the Central Frikated Union. It was conducted with considerable acrimony and "choice" language from both sides. Delegate Stewart of the Eccentric Stationary Engineers, started the ball rolling by asking Delegate Bohm if the local joint executive board of the brewery workers had decided at its last meeting to have the discharged firemen and engineers reinstated in their former places. Bohm answered in the negative and maintained that the motion suspending the Brewery Workers, which was passed last Sunday, was illegal, because at a previous meeting a motion had been passed to keep the matter in abeyance until the Executive Committee of A. F. of H. had rendered a decision. This motion had not been reconsidered.

This statement caused great excitement, three or four delegates demanding the floor at once, for the purpose of either favoring or opposing Bohm's contention. The excitement spread to the visitors present, who had come to whoop it up for the circus performers; so much so that it was impossible for the Chairman "Tammany Drum Major" Johnson and the Sergeant at Arms August Waldinger, delegate of himself, to maintain order. The chairman thereupon appointed two additional Sergeants at Arms to quell the uproar. When quiet was restored, Morris Brown and Lebeault, both Kaangaroos, tried to offer a motion, to have the suspension of the brewers reconsidered on the ground that it was illegal; but it was all to no avail as "The Tammany Drum Major" chairman refused to entertain such a motion.

The friends of the brewers tried their fortunes again when the minutes of the Miscellaneous Section was read. This section had decided by a unanimous vote, at its last meeting, that the suspension of the brewers was illegal. They wanted to have this action endorsed by the Central Frikated Union, but the antagonists of the brewers carried the day by having the minutes simply placed on file. As a consequence of this action, the Brewers' Union stands suspended.

"The noble waging of the class struggle" through the "harmonious relations" existing between the various factions of "organized labor," was continued through by ex-Turnkey Archibald, delegate of the Paper Hangers, who lamented the fact that the officers of the Amalgamated Painters had terrorized and overawed their members into the belief that their employers were with them in the fight of extermination of the rival organizations: the paper hangers, varnishers and international brotherhood painters. He hoped that the members of the Amalgamated who were present would take warning, as he had found in his interviews with the employers that the Amalgamated officers were not telling the truth. At an opportune time they (the members of the Amalgamated) would discover that this was a fact. The Amalgamated, which has sent out a circular to the effect that after August 1st, 1902, the scale of wages for plain painters shall be \$4, and that of decorative painters \$4.50 a day, must not expect, on account of their hostility against the other organizations that they will receive any assistance from them on that date, should they desire it. Last week the places of striking Amalgamated men were filled by members of the rival organizations; and from now on our policy will be "to hit an Amalgamated head wherever it shows itself." (Great sensation.)

Barry, of the Actors' Protective Union, reported that Hearst, proprietor of the Journal, had been elected an honorary member of his organization, not because he was a good actor, but for his services in behalf of the profession.

The barbers, through their delegate, reported that they find it impossible to have the Sunday closing law enforced. On complaining to the District Attorney they were told that the law was so framed that it was an easy thing for the employers to evade the law if they were so inclined.

Delegate Donnelly, of Big Six, read a bunch of letters from Congressmen and Senators, who had been addressed to Big Six in regard to the letter carriers salary bill. Most of these letters were, of course, favorable to the passage of the bill; some saying that while they were very "heartily" in favor of the bill, they nevertheless "deplored" their inability to get the bill out of the hands of the committee, with whom it is effectually buried.

Delegate Fitzgerald, of the Letter Carriers, also "deplored." He deplored the fact that there seems to be quite a

sentiment prevailing that letter carriers should not have anything to do with "organized" labor. "But," he said, "letter carriers would have to be ingrates if they would ever forget all that organized labor had done for them in securing the passage of the eight-hour bill. In order to reciprocate the letter carriers had seen that the order for their uniforms and caps had been placed with three union label firms. When the letter carriers appear soon in their Rough Rider hats they will, consequently, proudly wear the union label in them." This outburst of eloquence ended Fitzgerald's speech.

The Paper Cutters complained that Bookbinders Union No. 1 was endeavoring to prevent them from securing a charter from the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, as they claimed jurisdiction over paper cutters. This threatens another "trade-autonomy" fight.

Delegate Dooley, of the Franklin Association, No. 23, said that after years of fighting they had been successful in establishing a scale of \$14 a week, but that seceders under the leadership of Kenney, who is under the protection of the International Typographical and Pressmen's Union, were signing contracts with various firms in which the scale of wages is fixed at \$12 a week. Dooley wanted to know, "Is this unionism?"

After the meeting had adjourned there was quite a turmoil. A number of delegates called each other "crooks," "liars" and many unprintable names. A pugilistic exhibition was only prevented by the intervention of friends. Hands were shaken afterwards in the interest of "organized" labor. But the war will be renewed next Sunday, as usual.

NON-UNION MEN STRIKE.

Bridge Builders Say They Are Not Paid to Fight.

New complications have arisen to check the building of the bridges on the new Pennsylvania Railroad branch line from Newark, N. J., to the New York Bay. The non-union bridge builders who attacked the union bridge builders Saturday evening are now all on a strike. There are about fifty of them, and they claim that they were engaged to build bridges and not to fight. In view of the dangers of their occupation they are now demanding \$3 per day and eight hours' work, instead of \$2.50 per day and ten hours' work.

They have not the slightest objection to fighting, they say, with fists, guns or clubs, or in fact anything, but they are not inclined to do it for fun; and if their employers, the Phoenix Bridge Building Company, requires them to fight besides doing the other work, they want extra compensation.

"If you want us to work and fight too," said R. Bennett, who is the spokesman of the strikers, "you will have to pay us more money, or we won't work." That is what he said to A. Clay, the foreman, and yesterday the foreman went to Philadelphia to have a consultation with his employers.

In the meantime the work of building the bridges is at a standstill, in spite of the fact that the Pennsylvania Railroad is in a great hurry to have the line completed, as it is to connect with its plant being constructed off the Greenville shore.

The strikers held a secret meeting yesterday and all agreed not to go to work again until their demands had been granted.

James Nelson and the two John Ryans, union workers, who were charged with interfering with non-union workers in the construction of the bridge were discharged in the second criminal court, Jersey City, yesterday morning, as Superintendent Clay, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who was the complainant against the men, decided not to press the charge.

To Keep Down Mortality List.

Commissioner Lederle of the Health Department said yesterday that he was making plans to keep down the mortality list this summer. He said that the 150 physicians who are on the summer list will begin their work this summer about June 15, a month earlier than usual, and will instruct mothers regarding the care they should give their children. The physicians will work in conjunction with John P. Faure, the former Charities Commissioner, who looked after the fresh-air excursions conducted by St. John's Guild, and efforts will also be made to co-operate with Nathan Straus, who has sterilized-milk stands throughout the city during the heated term.

Dr. Lederle said that during the week ending June 29 of last year, when the temperature averaged 80 degrees, there were 79 deaths of children; for the week ending July 6, with an average temperature of 100 degrees, there were 303 deaths, and for the week ending August 3 there were 528 deaths.

Commissioner Lederle said that the usual appropriation of \$10,000 used in the summer work will not be large enough for this summer, and a larger appropriation will have to be secured.

Puddlers Demand Advance.

Reading Iron Company employees to the number of 2,500 have asked for an advance of 50 cents a ton for puddling and the same proportionate advance for every department, to go into effect on April 1. The advance averages about 16 per cent. The demand was referred to the president.

MAKING GOOD.

MITCHELL PROVING HIS LABOR LIEUTENANCY.

Younger Element in Convention Held Down—Mitchell's Tact Understanding With the Coal Operators—Why He Broke Firemen's Strike.

Last week's proceedings, so much at least as has been made public, of the miner's convention held at Shamokin last week and adjourned until today, shows that there is a strongly growing element discontented with the organization. It is evident that Mitchell has not been able to get all the delegates to his liking. A number of young men in the convention have made it apparent that they are not in sympathy with Mitchell's methods of running the organization. Taught to believe in the strike as the only means by which they can remedy their wrongs, they are clamoring for the use of this weapon AT ONCE and without parleying with the operators.

The "conservatives" tell them that the strike is futile and that defeat now would mean the loss of the increase "gained" in 1900. The defeat of the Amalgamated Association last year has been cited by these "wiser" ones.

Dissatisfaction with the wage scale, the operators say, is based primarily on the fact that the reports of the coal-carrying roads show such large profits for the past year, and especially the tremendous gains in the coal departments, that the miners think they ought to come in for a "share" of these profits, and receive an increase in wages for the coming year. The position of the operators on this particular proposition has been defined sharply enough and any such argument will be promptly rejected. The operators say that the wage scale is based on the work of the miners and not on the profits of the railroads, that the present scale is an equitable one, and no change will be considered.

As to recognition of the union which Mitchell seems to want the operators say that if the mine workers have grievances each of the operators is perfectly willing to hear a committee of its own men individually, but the United Mine Workers as such will not be recognized. Mitchell, it is said, realizes that there is no chance of winning another strike, but he must keep up an agitation for a recognition of the union, which may so result eventually that he will be unable to restrain his men and he will be forced to declare a strike. Mitchell has the power, granted him by the Indianapolis convention, to declare not only a sectional strike, but, if following a sectional strike, bituminous coal should be shipped into the eastern railroads which consume anthracite coal, he can declare a national strike and call out every union anthracite miner in the United States.

When the strike in September and October, 1900, was settled there was a tacit understanding between Mitchell and the operators that when he showed his ability to control absolutely the mine workers which were in the union, the operators would consider the question of recognizing the union. Mitchell broke the strike of stationary engineers last year, and refused to aid them in their demands, and it is understood that one of his reasons for so doing was to show his strength and to live up to his assertions made when the question of recognition was considered. But there have been a number of petty strikes since the agreement of 1900, where Mitchell's orders to return to work have been disregarded, and the union rules have been set at naught.

There is no question of Mitchell's power to order a strike and the temporary effect, were he to exercise it, would be to cripple the hard coal roads, because there is very little coal in storage. A standard argument offered by some of the dissatisfied miners why a strike should be ordered is that a strike now would completely cut off the supply, and as the miners are to be idle anyhow during a part of the summer, because of the partial stoppage of operations incident to the falling off in the demand, a strike on April 1 would not cause the men to lose many more weeks of work, while it would seriously affect the operators.

NOT FELLOW-SERVANTS.

Decision of Federal Court of Appeals Sustaining Railway-Damage Verdict.

St. Louis, March 25.—The United States Court of Appeals, in a decision affirming the opinion of a lower court in the case of Warren G. Furry, a fireman, who sued the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway and secured a verdict awarding him \$16,000 damages for injuries received in a collision caused by the failure of an operator to deliver an order, held that the operator and fireman were not fellow-servants according to the Arkansas statutes. Judge Thayer, who gave the opinion, found they were not working together for a common purpose, their work being of a different character and they were only brought together casually. This was agreed to by Judge Caldwell, but Judge Sanborn gave a dissenting opinion.

To Merge Color Engraving Companies.

Chicago, March 25.—Plans are on foot for the combination of the leading color engraving concerns of the country.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY vs. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

One often hears the question, What is the difference between the Socialist Labor Party and the Social Democratic Party? The frequency with which the question occurs is the crack compliment to the astuteness of the men who attend to the political end of the interests of the class that fleeces the workmen, women and children in the factories, shops, mines and yards of the land.

In 1890, the Socialist Labor Party set up its standard in the State of New York. It did so because by that time it had become clear to a sufficient number of citizens that the Republican and the Democratic Parties were the political right and left arm of the labor-fleeing capitalist class. Whether the government was Democratic or Republican, its Presidents, Governors, Legislatures, Judiciary, down to Mayors and Aldermen, uniformly threw the weight of their offices on the scale of the idle capitalist class and against the scale of the working class. "The rifle diet," administered through the military, the militia, the policemen's clubs and the Judges' "Gatling guns on paper," at the order of Democratic and Republican officials, dyed the country red with the blood of the workers, and threw suffering into their homes.

The Socialist Labor Party perceived this fact; it also perceived the fact that, with slight relief now and then, the tendency was to aggravate the evil: the annual earnings of the workers declined and had to decline; finally, the Socialist Labor Party also perceived and stated the cause of the evil. It pointed out that the private ownership of the land, needed to work on, and of the machinery, needed to work with, enabled the holders of these to live in idle luxury, and compelled the workers to yield to these the wealth they need to live in idleness, while the workers themselves had to starve on a pittance. Grounded upon these facts, the Socialist Labor Party called upon the working class and all other decent citizens to join it at the ballot box so as to overthrow the capitalist system by overthrowing the capitalist politicians, and to set up the Socialist Republic by the election of men pledged to overthrow the wage system of slavery.

This stand was taken in the State of New York first, in the campaign of 1890: The Socialist Labor Party spread steadily from State to State. The Party's vote increased everywhere. It increased notably in this State. So marked was the current in its favor that since 1897 the election of the S. L. P. candidate from the 16th Assembly District in New York county grew into more than a threatening possibility. In that year the S. L. P. candidate came out second best in the 16th A. D. The capitalist politicians no longer sneered at the S. L. P.—they saw that it meant business. They then put their heads together to smash it. They understood that the smashing had to be done in the State of New York, and that it had to be begun in the 16th A. D. of New York county.

The coming event cast its shadows before it. During the campaign of 1898, several well known Democratic and Republican district leaders, late one night, grew reckless in their talk in the "Humpty Hannover's saloon in the 16th Assembly District, and turning to some S. L. P. men, known to be working hard for the S. L. P. ticket, said: "If your candidate for the Assembly in this District polls a bigger vote than he did last year, we will take up some Socialist with a large following, and gather enough signatures to enable him to run as an opposition to your candidate."

This conversation, appeared in print in THE PEOPLE on January 22, 1899, with no Social Democratic Party yet in sight. The S. L. P. poll in the 16th Assembly District of New York rose over 400 votes in that year (1898). The rising waters threatened to drown the rats of the capitalist politicians. And they hastened to work to save their necks. The very next year, during the campaign, stands sprung up on the corners of the streets in New York City, especially in the 10th Assembly District, from which speakers, styling themselves "Socialists," called upon the workmen "in the name of Socialism" not to vote the Socialist Labor Party ticket. They had not yet a ticket of their own to offer; their original plan was to capture the S. L. P. organization by midnight assault, but they had come off with broken heads for their pains; it had become too late to gather signatures; and they satisfied themselves that year with simply raising dust by howling. Their audiences were furnished by the Tammany heeler, together with that corrupt element known as the "labor fakir," that has since been seen making common cause with Hanna and Schwab of the Steel Trust, and that periodically masquerades as Socialists. The next year they appeared with a ticket in this and other States, and their name was "Social Democratic Party."

Kentucky stallions are not fooled by coyotes. Neither can Socialism be the offspring of capitalist corruption. The conduct of the Social Democracy has been at all points in keeping with the purpose for which it was created, and, of course, with the element that brought it forth and dominates it, and consequently in sharp contrast with the Socialist Labor Party.

In 1900, the Social Democrat John C. Smith ran in the Worcester, Mass., district on both the Democratic and the Social Democratic Party tickets, with the knowledge, consent, and approval of his Social Democratic organization.

In that same year, the Social Democrat G. A. Hoehn of St. Louis, joined the deputy sheriffs of his city during the St. Louis street car strike.

In the same year, the Social Democrats in the municipal government of Brockton, Mass., voted franchises to private corporations, free, gratis and for nothing.

In the spring of 1901, the Social Democrat Morris Eichmann ran for office in West Hoboken, N. J., on the Republican, the Democratic, the "Citizens" and the

Social Democratic tickets, with the knowledge, consent, and approval of his Social Democratic organization.

In the fall of 1901, the Social Democrat Edward Staub ran for office in Syracuse on the Social Democratic ticket, and simultaneously figured on the official Democratic primary ballot, and as a delegate to the Democratic ward convention.

In Peekskill, N. Y., Seth Tabor figures as a Social Democrat and is a political job-holder by the grace of the Republican Party.

In San Francisco, Cal., two Social Democrats, Everett and King, applied to the Democratic Mayor for political jobs in 1900, got them, and kept them with the approval of their Social Democratic organization.

In Troy, N. Y., John Foley, a notorious ward heeler for the Democratic ex-Senator Murphy, ran in 1901 on the Social Democratic ticket for President of Common Council, while openly declaring he would vote the Democratic ticket straight.

In 1901, a New York City Social Democrat, F. A. Holzer, appeared as Vice-President on an official call for a "German Tammany Hall" meeting on the West Side, without even provoking the censure of his Social Democratic organization.

In Haverhill, Mass., James F. Carey, Social Democrat, voted a \$15,000 appropriation for an Armory, declares he would do it again, and his conduct passes even unchallenged by his Social Democratic organization.

In New York City the "Volkszeitung," German organ of the Social Democracy, notoriously took money to advertise capitalist political candidates.

These are but a few of the undeniable facts in the official and unsavory record of the Social Democratic party on the political side. Its record on the industrial side of the Labor Movement cuts an equally broad swath of treason to the working class.

No intelligent man has any longer any doubts upon the nature of the work done in the Labor Movement by such "labor leaders" as the Gomperses, the Mitchells, the Lynchs, etc., etc. The nature of their work has earned for them the title of "Organized Scabbary." Not only do they stand by the political representatives of the fleecers and shooters of the workers—the Democratic and Republican parties—but they operate the Unions that are unfortunate enough to be under their control against the best interests of the working class, often wholly in the interests of themselves or their dirty pets.

Now, then, there is not act of infamy committed by the "Organized Scabbary" against the welfare of the working class but the Social Democratic party either shuts its eyes to, or applauds. Whether it is the furnishing of deputy-marshals to the cigar manufacturers of Tampa, in order to lower the wages of the "Spanish workers"; or whether it is the helping of the employers of machinists to deceive these into believing that they have won a victory; or whether it is the bleeding of the workers for money under the false pretence of keeping up a strike, when the real reason is to support a lot of scamps as "pickets" and "strike committees" long after the strike is known to be hopelessly lost, as in the recent great cigar-makers' strike in New York City;—whatever infamy it may be that the "Organized Scabbary" has in hand, the Social Democratic party stands by them, praises their conduct as a "noble waging of the class struggle," and spaws its columns at the Socialist Labor Party for fearlessly exposing that "Organized Scabbary."

The "check-off system," for instance, is one of the "Organized Scabbary" devices to pluck and tyrannize and muzzle the rank and file. By this system, the employer "checks-off" on pay-day the dues of his workmen to their Union. The employer thus becomes the Financial Secretary of the Union. The Union is supposed to be organized to protect its members against the employer, but the employer becomes virtually an officer of the Union by the "check-off" system. He is thereby an ally of the "Organized Scabbary." It is in his power to compel his workers to submit to the "Organized Scabbary." By that scheme the mine-owners have held their miners down, wherever they were not blown up. Now, then, that infamous "check-off" system is in operation in New York City, in at least two shops controlled by Lynch's International Typographical Union. While the Socialist Labor Party has put its finger on that ulcer and denounced it, the Social Democratic party endorsed it, not only by lying low on the subject, but by nominating, as its candidate for Governor in 1900 and its candidate for Mayor in 1901, Mr. Ben Hanford, a limb of the "Organized Scabbary" that runs that Union, one who profits by it through well-paid snap committee jobs, and who himself worked in one of those shops (Rogowski's, 440 Pearl street), was there "checked-off" and by his silence encouraged the nefarious "check-off" system.

Like a veritable criminal the Social Democratic party travels over the country under a number of aliases: In some States it calls itself "Socialist Party." In Massachusetts its official designation is "Democratic Social Party." In Pennsylvania its style is "Public Ownership party." In New York it calls as "Social Democratic party." Of course, everywhere it pretends to be a Socialist party, and, aided by the Republican-Democratic capitalist press, it raises confusion everywhere. True enough, nowhere can its defamations of the Socialist Labor Party gain credence. But it is equally true that nowhere are the masses sufficiently posted to see through the fraud; the impression carried away by most people is the absurd one that "the Socialists are divided;" discouragement is thus created; and the masses, that would otherwise be moving towards and centering within the Socialist Labor Party, are scattered to the four winds;—and that was the purpose back of the launching of the Social Democratic party; its labor-fleeing class, together with its lackeys, the

"Organized Scabbary," breathes freer. The present condition of the public mind, created by this move of the Democratic-Republican politicians, proves their astuteness. But their astuteness can have play-room only so long as lack of sound information continues to mack the public mind. This fact points to the burning needs of the present. Sound information must be scattered so plentifully that none but the hopelessly stuffable can be misled. Then, none need ask, What is the difference between the Socialist Labor Party and the Social Democratic party? Whoever has brains is able to think for himself well then he is able to pick his own way out of the chaos. He will then clearly enough perceive the Social Democratic party to be a decoy duck of the capitalist parties. He will recognize the Socialist Labor Party as the sole political organization that interdicts and unsmashable faces the foe of the working class, and that alone is destined to triumph, and is entitled to the support of a serious, honorable and intelligent man.

ATTENTION! W. S. & D. B. F.

To the Members of the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund.

Greeting:—

During the April meetings of our society, our members will be called upon to cast their votes for the candidates for National officers. The experience of the last few years, ever since the element now in control of the society has adopted the policy of dragging the society into the whirl of partisan political strife, has shown conclusively whether the policy pursued by these National officers leads. From the time they adopted that shameful resolution in the year 1890, whereby they tried to set member against member, their career has been one of high-handed, insolent, yet petty despotism. And this policy has borne its inevitable fruits. They have ridden rough shod over the rights of individual members and of branches, with the result that the society has become tangled up in a variety of lawsuits some of which, those that have come up for trial, have been lost with heavy cost to the society, while others are still pending, all of them costing heavily. Of course these so-called leaders do not care, the pockets of the rank and file are there for the purpose of paying the piper, so think these leaders.

The case of August Gleiforst, Unger and Cook ought to be fresh on your minds. Expelled for no other reason than they had the audacity to agitate for the election of a set of officers other than the ones in control, instead of guarding the interests of the society by correcting a hasty and ill-considered action of a local branch, instead of displaying that degree of judgment and foresight which is one of the requirements of their office, they gave way to their petty malice so typical of the spirit in which they have all along conducted the affairs of our organization, sanctioned a most outrageous decree in the hope that the VICTIM COULD NOT RAISE MONEY ENOUGH TO PROTECT HIS RIGHTS—AND led the organization into disastrous defeat.

The case of John B. Gross and Andrew Bahnsen, regularly elected as Trustees, but promptly deposed from office by the clique in control, the moment they endeavored to exercise the functions of their offices and determined that the constitution and regulations of the organization be lived up to relative to the proper deposit of funds in bank, is another instance. Here too the matter had to be carried into court and it is safe to say, in view of the clearness of the case, that once again will the society lose and the members, have to foot the bill.

The case of Branch Evansville, Ind., wantonly dissolved because it dared to hold and express the opinion of its own relative to the merits of that precious National Executive Committee. And so on and so forth. The road along which that element has travelled is strewn with suspended Branches and expelled members; their career is marked with a succession of the most shameless attempts to bleed the members of the organization and its funds in support of partisan newspapers; discord, strife and violent efforts to create more trouble is the most marked feature of their conduct. Disgusted with such conditions, which must and do hurt the interests of the organization for the building up and the maintenance of which we have spent so much time and treasure, a number of branches have agreed upon the below ticket for National Officers. We recommend that every member of the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund who agrees with us that the present management of the society is in bad hands not only vote that ticket himself, but make every effort to induce his fellow members to cast their votes for it.

THE TICKET.

For National Executive Committee: For chairman, Henry Schmid, Branch 9, Hoboken, N. J. For financial secretary, Frank Erben, Branch 65, Cleveland, Ohio. For treasurer, Carl Zimmermann, Branch 9, Hoboken, N. J. For recording secretary, Henry F. Schreck, Branch 9, Hoboken, N. J. For trustees, Andrew Bahnsen; Fritz Brauckmann; Joseph H. Sauter; George Luck; Albert Ulrich, Jr. For Control Committee: Christian Bahnsen; Charles Bauer; George Betsch; August Friedrichs; Joseph Hain; Fred A. Loehr; John A. Morhart; Charles Schrafft; Henry W. Weiss.

The Committee.

Benefit for German Party Press. J. V. Becke, Los Angeles is awarded a sewing machine; Mr. Schubert, of Gloversville, an umbrella; Gillis Boyengen, Holland, Mich., Chatterline bag; J. Noonan, Springfield, Mass., box of cigars.

L. A. 337 Schenectady, N. Y. Regular meetings of the local will hereafter be held every Thursday evening. Members should not fail to attend. Bring your fellow workmen and get them interested in the movement.

ORGANIZER.

A LESSON IN PROFITS.

S. D. P. THEORISTS GET TANGLED UP IN REALITIES.

The Eight-Hour Day and the Mistakes Made Concerning It—An Illustration Showing How Capitalism Turns All Things to Its Own Advantage—The Workers Share.

James Carey, the Social Democratic Representative from Haverhill, Mass., has introduced a bill in the legislature to make a National 8-hour day, "by having the legislature of the various states" frame a measure to that effect. He says the reason of there not being an 8-hour day is that one state wishes to have an advantage over another in trade, this therefore necessitates a National movement.

Is this 8-hour day a good thing for workmen? Apparently so. But let us see its arguments. One is that it will lighten toil. To do this does not necessarily mean to shorten hours, although many think that to be a fact. You can shorten hours of actual labor but if you lessen the earning power as well, you are not lightening toil to the advantage of workmen. But if you increase wages or the purchasing power of wages, you then lighten toil, even though you do not shorten his hours below 10 a day. It is also claimed that this shorter work day will put idle men to work. If 100 men work 2 hours a day less, which is 200 hours, it gives 25 men more an 8-hour day to make the balance of product. This it may do, which would be some good.

Now let us examine under the microscope eye of scientific Socialism and see if it will lighten toil and for whom. Some will say it will lighten the pressure on the labor market, and in that way increase wages. We can study this out with the following illustration, although the machine, that iron workman who toils all hours at 8 cents a day, will attend to that part of reducing wages. Suppose, for instance, all men are occupied in the manufacture of hats. Let this figuratively cover all commodities. Each man works 10 hours a day, making 10 hats in that time, and receiving in wages for 10 hours \$2 for himself and costing for machinery, raw material and profits for the employer 4 times that sum or \$8, and I believe this is about the statistical ratio between them. Now, then, these 10 hats will cost to produce the sum of \$2 in wages plus the \$8 for material, machine and profit, or \$10, and these hats will have a selling power of \$1 each. If then the hours of labor are reduced to eight hours a day, and the men receive the same wage as for a 10-hour day, the manufacturer will also expect the same profit, making the net amount the same, or \$10 for the output per man per day. While the quantity of the output must decrease, being done in 8 hours, or at the ratio of a 10-hour day, which is one hat an hour, or 8 hats a day, then this 8-hour-a-day hat will have the selling price of \$1.25, in comparison to \$1, which is the selling price of the 10-hour-a-day hat. This certainly is decreasing the purchasing power of the workman's wages, as he can't buy as many articles at \$1.25 as at \$1, and as the workmen use the bulk of commodities, who is the lightening of toil on? Not on the workmen, surely.

It would also cause overproduction in the markets of the nation more rapidly than by the 10-hour plan. But if the manufacturer would reduce his profits, that is, be willing to lose the output of 2 hours, which to the workman means 40 cents and to the manufacturer \$1.60, there would be an increase, and the worker would gain thereby. But you can see by this article, and turn it in any way you like, the workman will be poorer under 8 hours than 10 hours, even at the same wages. But this is another sample of the S. D. P. foolish trickery. They are blind when the interests of the workers are concerned.

Yes, you may say, but perhaps the man can produce the same quantity in 8 hours as he did in 10 hours, or 10 hats in 8 hours. Well, who is the beneficiary then? This change is supposed to reduce the output, so as to put to work "the idle workmen" at making up the balance of the product. If you increase each man's product, you don't accomplish that result. What you do is to give to the manufacturer a larger profit by making it necessary for him to run his machinery only 8 hours, saving to him in coal, oil, wear and tear on machinery, buildings and other incidentals, or in other words, this latter plan of increasing the product of 8 hours so as to be the same quantity as 10 hours would be a distinctive gain to the manufacturer and a loss of vitality to the workman in sinew, bone and health, as intensified work to a man is like driving a machine beyond its capacity; you break or destroy it entirely.

A large number of people cannot understand why food stuffs are higher to day than ever, and wages lower in purchasing power. Place my problem of shorter hours, and same wages, alongside of what a lot of \$1.25 is the product of 8 hours' work, and all commodities are affected the same way. Now how much more must commodities increase if we accomplish what Mr. Carey is striving for, and place all men on an 8-hour day? This measure is like all the S. D. P. tactics. They are like the man who baits his hook with red flannel to catch the frog, and the frog gets slaughtered by taking it. Workmen, who is the frog?

Well, you may say, what are you crazy S. L. P. men talking about, when you say 4 hours a day is long enough? If 8 hours does so much injury, 4 hours would certainly kill the working class outright. Yes, it would, if we continued to give to the manufacturer \$8 out of \$10 for his share. But we do not. That \$8 profit as well as the \$2 in wages, under the S. L. P. system of production and distribution would all go to the workman and as under the S. D. P. conditions, \$10 would be the workers' share, we could then readily reduce him to 4 hours of \$4, if we count in dol-

lars, giving the rest of humanity a chance to make the other 6 hats, if the demand called for 10 hats. This is an illustration that can be applied to all products of the world, showing there is but one way to get shorter hours that will benefit humanity in general, and that is through the honest principles of the Socialist Labor Party. This is also another apt picture of the thinness of the Social Democratic theory. And paradoxical as it may seem, yet, 8 hours work at 10 hours' pay, or 8 hours' work, at 8 hours' pay, is a loss to the workman, under the capitalist system, and a gain to the manufacturer.

JOHN A. ANDERSON.

SKINNER'S "SHARE."

Accumulated \$3,000,000 While He and His Family Lived in Luxury.

Holyoke, Mass., March 20.—The will of the late William Skinner, silk manufacturer of Holyoke, Mass., has just been probated and discloses the fact that he has accumulated a fortune of about \$3,000,000 since he located in Holyoke twenty-five years ago. The Holyoke "Transcript," whose editor is one of those apologists of capitalism so well described by Comrade Austin, a few weeks ago in the DAILY PEOPLE, says that this vast fortune "was acquired by honest labor backed by good judgment." A little arithmetic will make the point clearer. Suppose Mr. Skinner had actually been at his office every day for 25 years and allowed himself only two weeks vacation in each year, he has allowed himself a sufficient wage to be able to save out of it \$2,400 every week. As Mr. Skinner has never been known to stifle himself and as his seven children have never done anything but amuse themselves in foreign countries it is reasonable to assume that Mr. Skinner's weekly wages must have averaged more than \$3,000 a week. Mr. Skinner was never considered an educated man but was always cracked up to be a plain everyday sort of a fellow, therefore it is always reasonable to assume that he was not a giant knowledge box of any kind it must be admitted that a wage of \$150,000 a year is rather a liberal allowance for an honest day's work, especially when we consider that Mr. Skinner allowed his fellow workers in his own mill no more than an average of \$8 per week. The truth is simply this: Mr. Skinner had 500 wage slaves in his factory, who did the brain and muscle work in the making of silk goods, for which they received on an average \$8 per week while Mr. Skinner made a PROFIT upon their labor averaging about \$7 per week per slave. That is the secret of wealth production all over the world, and the Skinners are the human leeches who absorb the wealth thus created, but who seek to hide the truth from the workers. This they do for fear the workers may rebel against the robbers and compel them to work for their own living, like any decent man or woman should and receive in compensation from society what their labor is justly worth. In addition it may be added that these Skinners and their flunky apologists know full well where the real wealth comes from. Mr. Skinner has provided in his will that \$1,000,000 be placed in charge of trust companies who shall pay each of his five daughters the income from said money. In other words, the daughters may keep right on sponging it upon the sweat of the workers at the rate of \$200 a week each of them and they need not even ever go inside the mill where this blood money is coined but simply draw their checks whenever they need their pin money. Great indeed is capitalism and great indeed is the patience of the workers who stand this fleecing process.

M. RUTHER.

General Committee, Section New York, Socialist Labor Party. Regular meeting held Saturday, March 22, 1902; 8:30 p. m. in the Daily People Building, 2-6 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Chairman, H. Kuhn; Vice-Chairman, D. Ferguson. Six new delegates were seated. Twelve new members were admitted. One application for membership was referred to the City Executive Committee for investigation. Two resignations were accepted. An extended discussion was held on the Party Press. Adjournment followed. A. C. KIHN, Secretary.

Section London, Ont.

The following are the officers of Section London, S. L. P. F. Hasselgrove, Organizer. F. J. Darsch, Financial Sec'y. D. Ross, Treasurer.

William Forbes, Literary Agent. J. O. Richards, Recording Sec'y. Meetings beginning March 18 are held on alternate Tuesdays and every Sunday afternoon, Headquarters, 256½ Dundas street, are open every Saturday afternoon.

Important for Colorado.

To the Comrades and Sympathizers of Colorado and to all others whom it may concern:

From this date all communications for the Colorado State Executive Committee should be addressed to Chas. H. Chase, 1820 Champa street, Denver, Col. Comrade Chase was elected by referendum vote to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Henry Warnecke. We would also suggest to all sympathizers of the S. L. P. throughout the mountain states to keep in touch with the party and by this co-operation more effective propaganda can be carried on.

By order Colorado State Ex. Com. Chas. Mullen, Secretary Pro tem.

Denver, March 6.

Pittsburg District Alliance No. 15.

S. T. & L. A. An important special meeting of D. A. 15 will be held on Sunday, March 30, at 10:30 A. M. sharp, at Headquarters, No. 111 Market st., Pittsburg, Pa. All delegates will please attend.

The next regular meeting of D. A. 15 will be held on Sunday, April 15, at 10:30 A. M. sharp, at the new Headquarters, No. 510 Wylie ave. (Grl. floor) 5 doors from Allegheny County Court House, Pittsburg, Pa. All delegates will please attend.

PLATFORM OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American Republic, we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty, and of happiness.

With the founders of this Republic, we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the subject dependence of the masses of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democratic theory into plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated that the people may be kept in bondage. Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming, however, when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of lawless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

LONDON, ONT.

S. L. P. Address to the Electors and Citizens.

To the Electors of the City of London:

In view of the approaching Provincial election, Section London of the Socialist Labor Party of Canada, wish to remind the electorate of this city of a few facts which will assist the honest elector in deciding which party in the coming contest should receive his moral support and get his vote.

The facts in this lead should appeal to every fair-minded citizen who considers the ballot a sacred matter whereby he may express his political desires; to decide that the Socialist Labor Party is the only political party whose principles and platform admit of no misconstruction, and savor only of honest, open and intelligent methods. In proving the degraded proceedings of the Grit and Tory parties we experience no difficulty, as all citizens are, or should be, conversant with the facts which we intend to narrate.

To begin we may refresh the memory by recalling the Dominion election, run by Hyman and Beattie, representing Grit and Tory politics in London. The degrading measures practiced in the Attic with ham bones and beer by the Tory tools, and the equally degrading practices in McIntyre's barn by the upholders of Grit politics are matters of well known history in London.

Then again, the municipal election of 1900, run by Rumball, representing Grit and Tory parties, and Comrade F. J. Darsch, representing the Socialist Labor Party, the working class and all other citizens who believe in justice and right. It was considered a recognized fact that Darsch was elected by a fair majority, but the combination capitalist candidate was declared the winner by officials appointed by supporters of said candidate. Now all citizens know, or should know, that shortly after the Lays-Darch election, which was for one session of the Legislature, that the Socialist Labor Party was enabled by advocates (at present in the Party's possession) to name eight so-called respectable citizens guilty of the heinous crime of plugging votes, one of those being a well known Conservative, working in the interest of the Grit candidate, to the detriment of the working class, thereby proving the bond of sympathy between the Grit and Tory capitalist parties, and showing their solidarity against the working class, whose success at the polls would mean a majority rule.

Of the malodorous nature of the revelations made in connection with the recent municipal elections in London, it may be stated that it is nothing uncommon where Grits and Tories are concerned, the same offensive corruption has been exposed before, and will continue until the honest electorate shall rise in their indignation and demand that the whole criminal combination be debarred from any longer directing the conduct of elections in this city. In fact, the moral degradation to which municipal and parliamentary elections and electoral matters have sunk in this city under the capitalist system, has become a byword in Canada, and such matters as ballot-switching, ballot box stuffing, ballot burning, and general electoral corruption is considered a necessary accompaniment to an up-to-date election of any importance in London.

As a specimen of the Tory pots' opinion of the business of the Grit kettle, the following to be found in the Free Press of February 20th, is a good illustration. Referring to the recent municipal elections it states: "In the municipal history of Canada there is nothing to equal the rascality that was practiced in London. There has never been such a carnival of corruption in any civic election." The plunger, the personator, the ballot switcher, the crooked poll clerk, the dishonest deputy-returning officer, the ballot forger, all have free course and are glorified and rewarded." Also in the Globe of February 24th, in a leading article referring to the same matter, as well as the Dominion bye-elections in St. James Division, City of Montreal, where machine politics were concerned, it states that the Conservative journals have said nothing too severe about those practices.

We, the Socialist Labor Party, say this whole abomination comes not from the honest electors, but from the capitalist leaders of Grit and Tory political parties, and we call upon the honest electorate to rise to the dignity of their privilege and position, and, once for all cast the whole corrupt-lust gain into well-earned oblivion, by solidly supporting the Socialist Labor Party, the only party which stands squarely before all citizens in the interest of pure government.

"Of the people, for the people, by the people." When we find in the public press of this city accounts of how Hyman, Grit, and Beck, Tory, fraternized at Rideau Club banquet in the city of Ottawa on the recent occasion of the opening of Parliament, we are prompted to exclaim: "Behold, how those people love one another." The proof of their mutual love of one another, and their mutual hostility to the interest of the propertyless electors of this city, cannot be better illustrated than by the manner in which they jointly assisted in depriving that large class of voters from having any representative voice in the Municipal Councils of this Province. The record of which can be found in the proceedings of the Municipal Council of the City of London, 1900, led by Alderman Jolly, Tory, and finished in the acts of the Ontario Legislature, directed by F. B. Lays, M. P. P. Grit, for the city of London. This act of engaging representatives of the propertyless working class is a most high-handed and mediaeval piece of legislation, depriving this great body of electors of a constitutional privilege never questioned, and long enjoyed. Fellow electors, those are the parties who will seek your suffrages in the coming provincial elections. We have every confidence that your manhood will resent giving such parties either vote or moral support in the face of such treatment. The Socialist Labor Party in appealing to the electors of London for support, would respectfully ask them to consider, whether those self-confessed corruptorists can merit any support, for we fail to conceive how they can expect it. The history of such elections as North Waterloo, 1898, with its long chapter of political crime, ending in both parties mutually condoning the other's wrongdoing, and West Eglon, of undying criminal fame, all of which is aptly described in a leading article which appeared in the Globe September 13th, 1901, under the title "Anarchy," which says, "Corruption is Anarchy, a gerrymander is Anarchy, tampering with ballots is Anarchy." And have we not found both those political parties, according to their own confession and history, guilty of all these of heinous crime?

Fellow electors, the Socialist Labor Party represent the greatest political party the world has ever known, with a platform and principles founded on the eternal rock of equity and justice. Its onward progress cannot be stopped, its international character is a guarantee of peace, its recognition of the rights of labor only is a sufficient guarantee of its permanence and final triumph. Class legislation as safeguarded by the existing Grit and Tory political parties entails moral corruption, injustice and human degradation, are fruits which are daily seen on every hand. The question is, shall it be continued? The Socialist Labor Party will welcome to its ranks all honest citizens who agree with its platform and principles, and are ready to co-operate in banishing this hydra-headed monster of capitalism and political corruption from the path of human progress.

At headquarters, 256½ Dundas street, meetings are held every alternate Tuesday, beginning March 18th, also every Sunday afternoon, and the rooms are open for social intercourse every Saturday afternoon until further notice.

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THE SEATTLE FIGHT.

Conditions Existing in the Pacific Coast City Necessitate Hard Work, and the Apparent Gains Are Small.

BUT STILL IT TELLS

The Question of Open or Shut Doors to the Houses of Ill Repute—The Commercial Necessity of Vice—Kangaroo and the Part They Played—Holding the Vote for an Increase—Ready for the Next Battle

Seattle, Wash., March 9.—The municipal election is over, the voice of the "people" (Weekly) has been heard, and the majority of the law has been upheld, and the citizens of Seattle have again settled down to the task of upbuilding and furthering the interests of the city.

There was a great "landslide" last Tuesday, a slide in which a great majority of the working class again slid into the shambles of capitalism.

Section Seattle emerges from the fight stronger, cleaner, more determined and better equipped than ever to carry on the struggle against the capitalist class, a struggle which will only cease when the banner of the working class floats in triumph from the dome of the capital at Washington.

The result of the campaign just closed is most gratifying to the members of Section Seattle, our efforts have not been in vain, the onslaught which we have carried on against the almost impregnable wall of capitalism is beginning to have the desired effects and the days in which the capitalist politicians, pulpsters, journalists and labor fakirs are able to hoodwink the members of the working class are drawing to a close.

In so far as the labor fakirs in this city are concerned their power and influence is already a thing of the past, three years of continued opposition and public exposure of their nefarious schemes by the fighting S. L. P. has been sufficient to put the quietus on the local labor fakirs for all time to come.

The fake issue of the capitalist parties was whether Seattle should be a "wide-open" town in which all kinds of vice in its most hideous forms would be allowed to go unchecked and flaunt itself unreservedly before the eyes of the "decent" people or whether we should have a strict enforcement of "law" and compel the vile and vicious, the skin game and prostitutes to ply their trade behind closed doors in the back yard or any other place, just so the "respectable" citizens the innocent and the blind could not see it unless they looked for it.

The Republican Party with "Honest" Tom Humes as their candidate declared that they were doing all that could or ought to be done along this line. They pointed out in the first place that the evils were necessary and being necessary it was idle to talk about stopping them and in the second place the commercial welfare of the city demanded that vice should be "wide-open."

The democrats with Goodwin as their standard bearer representing the "moral element" also declared that while the evils were necessary they should be regulated and if elected he promised to control vice, make it have some regard for respectable people and the especially promised to protect the working class by placing gambling dens in such a place that the dinner party brigade could not get at them.

The immoral element won, vice goes unchecked and the commercial supremacy of Seattle still lives.

The S. L. P. exposed these false issues and continually pointed out the cause of the "necessary evils" and that the only issue was whether the capitalist system with its poverty and degradation of the working class and its necessary evils on the one hand and the capitalist class rioting in luxury and splendor with the wealth stolen from the working class on the other hand, or whether the working class should kick overboard the capitalist class, and their system, and necessary evils along with it and make themselves masters of their own destinies by taking control of the public powers and using those powers to further the interests of the working class only.

We always appealed to our fellow workmen as intelligent men and always made it a point to warn them that unless they were satisfied that they understood the aims, objects and methods of the S. L. P. to not vote our ticket.

The result is as follows—

For Mayor—Walter Walker.....172
Comptroller—Chas. E. Re-
gal.....181
Corp. Counsel—Jap. W.
Monette.....192
Treasurer—Fred W. Ro-
berti.....181
Councilmen at large:
Frank Crossman.....176
M. J. Kennedy.....180
Council 1st Ward:
Owen Martin.....56
Council 2nd Ward:
C. F. Kaufman.....6
Council 3rd Ward:
William Walker.....9
Council 4th Ward:
Paul Wagner.....24
Council 5th Ward:
Abe Brieffel.....23
Council 6th Ward:
E. S. Prentiss.....27
Council 7th Ward:
C. F. Neilson.....31
Council 8th Ward:
F. G. Goodman.....7
Council 9th Ward:
J. W. Basor.....7

Two years ago in a similar election we polled 148 votes for the head of the

ticket, but the gain of 24 votes recorded in this election does not in any way tell the story or convey any idea of the work accomplished by Section Seattle during that time.

At the time of the last election the S. L. P. was practically the only party having the name of socialist in the field. The S. D. P. was then in its embryonic stage in this city, its vote was small and the S. L. P. of course received many votes which did not belong to it, but which logically belonged to the S. D. P.

Since that time the S. D. P. has blossomed forth in all its "power and glory," with a weekly paper which they freely distributed among the trade unionists, with all their catering to the pure and simpliers, with hobnobbing with the labor fakirs in order to "swing" the union vote, with their compromising, catch more flies with molasses than you can with vinegar tactics, they succeeded in this election in polling 312 votes which number included many former S. L. P. votes which as I said never belonged to it.

One year ago the section was almost rent in twain on account of the Kingsley-Knight affair, both of these men had many followers and both swore vengeance against the S. L. P. and predicted that the scalp of Section Seattle would in a few months hang from their belts. The opposition of this Kangaroo outfit was very troublesome for a time, but the Buzz-Saw at last cleaned our path of the debris and most of their followers have found their place in the garbage box, the Multi-Coca "Socialist Party."

The principal cause however of our apparently small vote is on account of the peculiar make up of the population of Seattle and the nature of our propaganda.

In the article published in THE PEOPLE several weeks ago, mention is made of the fact that Seattle is the headquarters of the Washington lumber industry and it is here that the working men employed in those industries are continually coming and going.

The transient population of this city is very large among the working class and the work of section Seattle has been for the most part among these transient workmen. Our aim has been to spread clear working class doctrine and not to roll up a large vote. The fruit of our labors is seen not only in this city but throughout all parts of the state and in fact all parts of the United States where the workmen have gone. We have held on the average of three street meetings a week the year around, our sales of papers and literature has been large, sometimes as much as \$25 worth per week, and it is doubtful if there is another place in the United States where speakers of the S. L. P. in a given number of meetings address so many different workmen.

The vote is most gratifying and encouraging to the members of section Seattle and the result has infused new life and vigor into the stalwarts, we have already opened the fall campaign and with the present corps of speakers and workers our vote next fall will greatly exceed the present one.

Another thing which I have neglected to mention is the fact that section Seattle is composed for the most part of transient workmen who generally work out of the city and are only here at uncertain intervals. Many times has the section been left with only one speaker and at such times the work accomplished could not of course be very great.

Section Seattle is proud of its record, the future looks bright and cheerful, let the watchword of the comrades everywhere be, "down with the labor fakir, death to capitalism, up with the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A., onward to the co-operative commonwealth the workers republic."

Our progress is necessarily slow but nevertheless sure, the days of capitalism and wage slavery are numbered and the emancipation of the working class by the working class is at hand.

JNO. W. MONTITE.

A German "Invasion" of England.

It seems almost incredible that the Sheffield scissor industry is approaching extinction through the superior excellence and lower prices of German goods. That assertion appears, nevertheless, in a local journal which is not given to expressing alarmist views. It is alleged that German scissors are ousting those of Sheffield make from the home market generally, being better finished, of equal quality, and far cheaper, thus providing the retailer with a larger margin for profit. When local cutlery manufacturers are questioned as to the reason of this rapid displacement of British goods by foreign, they do not deny the fact, but attribute the loss of business to the evil operation of trade union interference in the trade. That may be, and probably is, one potent cause, but there are some authorities who attribute no small share of the blame to the manufacturers themselves. Their machinery has not kept pace, it is affirmed, with modern improvements, whereas German makers are quick to adopt any novel appliance which gives promise either of cheapening production or of bringing the finished article into closer harmony with popular requirements. It is not for us to judge what degree of truth lies in this indictment. But it is undoubtedly a grave matter of almost national concern if what was to be one of the most prosperous industries in the cutlery metropolis is threatened with early ruin by foreign imports.—London Globe.

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THE FIELD OF LABOR

Wages in the Shoe-Industry.

Not very long ago, the National Industrial Commission issued a final report on Labor, in which it was shown that wages are relatively and absolutely declining, while labor is being intensified, resulting in a shortened period of trade life to the worker. During the past week the Census Bureau has issued some figures on the shoe industry of this country which give point to these facts, bringing them more forcibly and clearly home.

According to these figures, the number of establishments making shoes decreased, between 1890 and 1900, from 2,082 to 1,600 in number, or 23.2 per cent. This decrease of establishments was accompanied by an increase in the number of workers, from 133,690 in 1890, to 144,922 in 1900, or 8.9 per cent. The wages of the shoeworkers amounted to \$60,837,145 in 1890, and \$59,173,883 in 1900, an absolute loss of 2.5 per cent. When, however, it is recollected that the number of workers has increased 6.9 per cent, the relative loss is still greater; especially is this the case when the increased value of the product for the two periods is considered. In 1890, this value amounted to \$220,619,358; in 1900, to \$261,028,580, or an increase of 18.3 per cent. From the figures showing the increase of workers and the increase of product values, it is easy to see that the relative loss in wages is far greater than the given absolute loss of 2.5 per cent. It would be nearer the truth to place the loss at about 15 per cent. It would be nearer the truth to place the loss at about 15 per cent in all.

As to the intensity of labor, the census figures show that in 1890, 89,123,318 pairs of men's, youths' and boys' shoes were produced. This is an increase both in number of pairs and value of about 33 per cent. There was also a slight increase in the number of pairs and value of women's shoes, of which 107,410,855 pairs were made. Thus, there was an increase in production almost five times as great as the increase in the number of workers. This increase, it may be argued, was due to better machinery, methods and management; but, as every worker knows from experience, backed by the capitalist findings of the National Industrial Commission, better machinery, methods and management are simply many means of increasing speed and intensifying exploitation.

It will now be in order for those moralists who contend that the poverty of the worker is due to his indolent and unproductive habits to tell us how it comes that, as the shoeworkers labor more intensely and produce more abundantly, they grow absolutely and relatively poorer? It will now be in order for those who contend that industry is the high road to success (which in their minds is synonymous with wealth) to tell us how, in spite of their superb showing, the shoeworkers are going down the steep of failure to increased poverty?

Finally it would be in order for the working class to apply such facts to the claims of all capitalist defenders; and they will find that their wages are growing relatively and absolutely less, while their toil is increasing in intensity, despite the unions of the Tobin and Eaton brand, because of the private ownership of capital, which enables a small class, named the capitalist class, to rob them, the workers, of the greater part of their products in the form of profit.

The remedy for this condition of affairs lies in the inauguration of Socialism, in which capital will become social property and labor will receive the full product of its toil.

JUST LIKE THIS COUNTRY.

Zola Rejoins Paris Woman's Club That Has Many Equals Here.

Paris, March 16.—Emile Zola's debut as a lecturer is the sensation of the hour in Paris.

He was invited to deliver a series of three lectures before an exceedingly aristocratic women's literary and political club. At the very beginning he told his "smart" rustling hearers that they knew nothing about literature or politics, but were simply possessed of that surface knowledge which society women find useful in daily chit-chat to create an impression of intellectual culture. Then he proceeded to demonstrate that a real understanding of literature or politics required hard work of which such an audience as he saw before him manifestly was incapable.

"You pretend to be interested in these questions," M. Zola said, "but really you are not."

"Your days are solely devoted to foolish amusement and useless actions, interminable toilet-making, seances with dressmakers, luncheons, dinners, pink teas, so-called literary lectures, receptions, balls and theatres. You spend your time in gossip which is stupid when it is not wicked."

"You shirk motherhood, and when you have children they are mostly entrusted to mercenary hands."

"You grovel with astonishing alacrity to gain admittance into social circles above your own, and cannot conceal your asinine contempt for people supposedly below your set."

"You reduce your reluctant duty of charity to paltry offerings for a few famous institutions."

"This is the sort of a life a society woman leads. What right have you to meddle into philosophy, literature and politics?"

"It is a mere accident of birth that you are not factory girls or dry goods saleswomen. And were you such, can you feel certain that you would have the courage to prefer honest, laborious misery to blameworthy ease?"

The audience was stupefied. Several of the members moved today that the invitation be withdrawn for the two remaining lectures, but the majority refused to do so, arguing that such a sincere man as M. Zola should be allowed freedom of speech, however startling and severe his words might be.

IRISH SOCIALISTS.

They Poll 800 Votes in Two Dublin Wards.

Dublin, Ireland, March 14.—The Irish Socialist Republican Party, was founded in Dublin in May, 1896. The founders were poor, like the remainder of their class, and had arrayed against them all those things that are supposed to be essential to success. They were without a press of any kind, their propaganda was generally supposed to be hostile to the religious views of the majority of the people, no great or well known name allied itself to them, they had to count on the bitter opposition of all the organized parties which defend the interests of the propertied class, their opponents had more sovereigns to spare for political work than they had coppers, they were in a country undeveloped industrially, and a country in which political freedom was not fully realized, and where, therefore, the political mission of Liberalism or middle class reformers was not yet exhausted—in short they were handicapped as no other party in this country ever yet were handicapped; hated by the government, held in distrust by the people, and in short generally regarded as Ishmaels in the political life of Ireland.

But that little band of pioneers stuck to their work manfully, and despite all discouragements and rebuffs continued sowing the seeds of Socialist working class revolt in the furrows of discontent ploughed by the capitalist system of society. Today they can look back on their work with pride. Nowhere, it is true, have they yet succeeded in getting on their side that majority necessary to place the nominee of their party, the S. R. P., on the seats of the elected ones—that triumph is indeed not yet vouchsafed to them—but he would indeed be a very ignorant or a very presumptuous person who would essay to review the possibilities of the political situation in Dublin, and would leave this little fighting party out of his calculations.

In the elections just ended EIGHT HUNDRED VOTES WERE CAST FOR SOCIALISM in the only two wards of this city our finances allowed us to contest. These votes were cast for no milk-and-water, ratepaying, ambiguous "Labor" candidates, but for the candidates of a party which in the very stress and storm of the fight instructed its standard bearers to refuse to sign the pledge of the compromising Labor Electoral body, and to stand or fall by the full spirit and meaning of its revolutionary policy.

These 800 votes were cast for Socialism in spite of a campaign of calumny unequalled in its infamy, in spite of the fact that the solemn terrors of religion were invoked on behalf of the capitalist candidates, in spite of the most shameless violation by our opponents of the spirit of the Corrupt Practices Act, and despite the boycott of the press. No other party ever had such a dead weight to lift as they could appear as a recognized force in political life; no other party could have affixed such a weight so gallantly and so well. What is the secret of the wonderful progress of this party? The secret lies not in the personality of leaders, nor in the ability of propagandists; it lies in the fact that all the propaganda and teaching of this party was, from the outset, based upon the Class Struggle—upon a recognition of the fact that the struggle between the Haves and the Have Nots was the controlling factor in politics, and that this fight could only be ended by the working class seizing hold of political power and using this power to transfer the ownership of the means of life, viz., land and machinery of production, from the hands of private individuals to the community, from individual to social or public ownership.

This party had against it all the organized forces of society—of a society founded upon robbery, but it had on its side a latent force stronger than them all, the material interests of the Work Class. The awakened recognition of that material interest has carried us far; it will carry us in triumph to the end.

Lectures by Daniel DeLeon.

Two lectures on "Two Pages from Roman History" will be delivered by Daniel De Leon at Manhattan Lyceum, 66-68 East Fourth street, New York.

The first of these, "Plebs Leaders and Labor Leaders," will be delivered on Wednesday, April 2nd, at 8 P. M. The second lecture, "The Warning of the Gracchi," will be delivered on Wednesday, April 10th, at 8 P. M. These lectures will be free to all. Ten thousand throw-aways have been printed and can be had in a few days at the office of Section New York, S. L. P., 2-6 New Reade street, New York.

Assembly Districts are urged to get a supply of these and systematically distribute them among the voters in their districts. Immediate action will be necessary by the Districts as the time is short and these lectures should be extensively advertised.

To the Subdivisions of Section New York, and Progressive Trade and Labor Organizations.

Greeting.

Cooper Union having been engaged for a Monster Mass Meeting on May 1st to fittingly celebrate INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY, your organization is invited to send two delegates to a conference to be held at the Daily People Building on Saturday, March 29, 8 P. M., for the purpose of attending to the necessary arrangements.

Delegates should be provided with credentials.

For the General Committee, L. Abelson, Organizer.

Section Minneapolis, Minn.

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THE FIELD OF CAPITAL

The "Merry" Tobacco War.

The "merry" tobacco war now raging in this country and England promises to be a sorry one for many fallacious economic theories and the middle class before it is settled. It will drive one more nail into the coffin of the comforting theories that combination increases competition (meaning thereby the competition of small and not concentrated industry), and that industry is consequently decentralizing locally and nationally.

It will be recollected that this "merry" war was first precipitated in this country, when the American Tobacco Company (the parent company of the Tobacco Trust), decided to undertake the manufacture of plug tobacco, snuff, cigars and cheroots, and the control of tobacco cultivation in this country and Cuba. Previous to this decision, the various companies composing the American Tobacco Company, were mainly engaged in the making of cigarettes; also, but not to the same extent, in the manufacture of loose chewing and smoking tobaccos.

In order to make this decision profitable and effective the American Tobacco Company organized the Continental, the American Snuff, the Havana American, and the American Cigar Companies, each of which is specialized, manufacturing only a certain line of tobacco products. All of the companies, including the parent company were finally bound together through the Consolidated Tobacco Company, a sort of holding company, said to possess a capital estimated at \$120,000,000.

The extent of the operations of these companies may be best judged by the fact that two of them—the American and the Continental—have shown net "earnings," or profits, for the past year of \$14,000,000; while another company—the American Cigar Company—has just opened its fortieth factory for the manufacture of cigars. This factory, which is located at Camden, New Jersey, employs 1,000 "hands" and has a capacity of 1,000,000 cigars weekly, is indicative of the gigantic scale upon which this company does business.

When the above companies were organized the Tobacco Trust next paid attention to the organization and control of the wholesale tobacco jobbing trade. It formed companies for this purpose, purchased controlling interests in firms and corporations already in existence, enlarging and extending their business in all directions. Where these methods failed it forced agreements through threats of annihilation, by refusal to sell their products to the offenders, and through the establishment of competing concerns. In this way the Tobacco Trust secured domination over the retailers.

With the advent of the tobacco trust in the various branches of the tobacco industry, above mentioned, there sprang up considerable opposition to it in those branches. As a result, the Universal Tobacco Company, a corporation whose capital has been variously estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$75,000,000, was organized. This company absorbed the D. H. McAlpin Company, among others. Then there followed the organization of other corporations by the Doerhoeffers and Weissingers, out West, for the manufacture of plugs and other tobaccos. These corporations were mainly formed of concerns already in existence and enjoying a comparatively profitable career.

In New York, the Hirsch-Mack Cigar Company, with \$10,000,000, and having huge factories in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, was formed. In Cuba, the Havana Commercial Company and Bock & Company, two rich and powerful cigar companies, consolidated as a result of the trust's "invasion" and competition there. So it went all along the line, combination being met by counter-combination and competition by concentration. Just how many small concerns this process has crushed is not exactly known, but it may be inferred from the statement of Harry Fisher, of the Tobacco Workers' National Union, who claims that the trust has caused the discharge of 25,000 tobacco workers formerly employed by small men.

Having organized its constituent companies and specialized them, to the extent and with the results above described, the Tobacco Trust, like Alexander of old, sighed for more worlds to conquer, and turned its gaze abroad. It may be said that the sigh was necessitated by modern economic conditions, for no industry is safe in modern times from foreign competition, which must in turn be controlled to ensure complete domestic domination.

Well, as a result, the well-known "invasion of England" followed; while Russia, Germany and Canada were also partly attacked; while an assault upon the governmental tobacco monopolies of France, Austria-Hungary, Servia, Roumania, Italy, Spain and Portugal, is contemplated. Talk about "the decentralization of industry!" But this is anticipating a little, so let's go back to "the invasion of England."

The "invasion of England" resulted in the formation of the Imperial Tobacco Company, a consolidation whose capitalization is given as ranging from \$65,000,000 to \$75,000,000. This company immediately set to work to repel "the invaders" by creating a monopoly of the dealers, though the offer of a bonus and a binding agreement preventing the retailers from dealing with other companies, American or English. The "invaders" went the Imperial Company one better: it offered to give the dealers not only a bonus, but their entire profits for four years, while leaving them free to deal with whom they may. As it is not likely that any English company can meet these terms, and insure the dealers more profits, the dealers have accordingly, unanimously denounced the "un-English" attempt of the Imperial Company, to act "in restraint of trade" and accepted the terms of the "invaders."

Now it will be readily seen that the triumph of the Tobacco Trust leaves English tobacco manufacturers, especially the independents, in a hole, to use a vulgarism. What must be done to counter-

act it? The history of this country points to the solution: there must be greater concentration; a counter-combination to meet the American combination. In so far as the Imperial Company is concerned, this is said to be already decided upon as the only way out. According to the latest rumors, it is contemplating "a community of interests" with the Universal Company, the Havana-Commercial, Bock & Company, the Weissinger and other tobacco companies of this country, for offensive and defensive purposes.

What the outcome of such a move will be is not hard to foretell. It can end in one of three results, any of which will mean a still greater concentration than exists at present. It may (first) result in the triumph of "the community of interests," which will be equivalent to the death and absorption of the Tobacco Trust; or it may (second) result in the defeat of "the community of interests," which will, in turn, be equivalent to its death and absorption by the Tobacco Trust; or it may (third) result in an amicable consolidation of both "the community of interest" and the Tobacco Trust.

Thus we see that the death of the Tobacco Trust can only be encompassed by a greater trust of national and international dimensions. Its transformation can only come not through its dissolution, but through its consolidation with other national and international trusts. No matter which way this occurs, concentration triumphs, to the detriment of middle class competition and the economic fallacies born of its decline.

When the competition of trust with trust will have ceased, when the great struggle for national and international supremacy now raging between the colossal aggregations of modern capitalism shall have resulted in complete concentration, then we shall have Socialism.

HARTFORD'S MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN

The Part Played in it by the Labor Fakirs.

Hartford, Ct., March 19.—Only a few weeks more and our city election belongs to the past. But the nearer the day draws the more lively things are getting among our politicians. This is especially true with our "famous" Economic League, a conglomeration founded and led by the fakirs of our C. L. U.

Originally it was planned by said fakirs that the "League" should participate independently in the coming city election, but as it happened that each fakir is also a ward healer for one or the other of the old parties, this plan had to be abandoned. The fakirs could not agree as to who should be nominated for the respective offices.

Therefore a new plan had to be concocted, and so it was agreed that each "union-man" should be registered for the caucuses of the old parties and then set to work to nominate "good" men who would pledge themselves upon the program of the "League."

This is being done just now, but things don't run quite as smooth as expected. Naturally each fakir who is a ward healer for one of the old parties, tries to get a man of his own party to be nominated, but the other side is up to the same scheme. The one who can manage to bring the most adherers to such meetings will of course succeed, no matter how much the other side protests. If the minority gets too turbulent they are simply ousted, as in reality it has already happened in several wards.

It is a lucky thing for these fakirs that election day is only a few weeks off, if it was as many months we would have the chance of witnessing the bursting of this nefarious fraud, before it had come into action for the purpose it was supposed to achieve.

Already the fakirs are falling out among themselves, they accuse each other of fraud and corruption, and call each other names which are vainly sought in any unabridged dictionary.

As a matter of fact money is plenty on hand, but only a very few of the main fakirs know the source it comes from, the other fakirs are just as much groping in the dark as the public in general. But this is just the bone of contention, the small fakirs cry fraud and corruption, which means that they don't get enough of the boodle. In order to keep the source a secret as long as possible the main fakirs try all means to postpone the nominations to the last moment, lest it may leak out before time who the parties are that supply the boodle.

Such are the delings of our labor fakirs and yet these fellows have the brass to proclaim that all this is "in the interest of labor." How thoroughly corrupt and rotten must be the political atmosphere, if such a gang of frauds can receive any votes at all; and yet, pitifully enough to relate, the "union" pure and simple has received from these very fakirs makes it stand in with such practices.

But every dog has his day. The Kang-Social Democracy fraud is dead and gone, for nothing is seen and heard of it in this campaign. Apparently only a few schemers are left for burial and a benevolent undertaker will perform his duty. The same will happen to the present "League" fraud.

Undismayed in the face of all these fraudulent obstacles stands the old staunch S. L. P. Although defeated many a time, it never can be conquered. In order to enable the working class to cast a strict class conscious vote, without any fraud and corruption as an accompaniment, an S. L. P. city ticket is nominated, also as far as possible will there be nominated in every ward the necessary aldermen and councilmen.

City Ticket.
Mayor, Charles J. Stodel.
Clerk, Frederick Fellermann.
Collector, Jacob Breuer.
Treasurer, James T. Manee.
Auditor, Robert Kirkpatrick.
Marshal, Charles F. Roberts.

ATTENTION, BUFFALO!

Section Erie County, N. Y., S. L. P., will give a

Grand Ball and Entertainment

At German-American Hall, corner Main and High streets, SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1902, at 8 p. m. Concert consisting of vocal and musical selections. Dancing music by Gans and Duncan. TICKETS, admitting gentlemen and lady, 25 CENTS.

Trades' & Societies' Directory

SECTION ESSEX COUNTY, S. L. P. The County Committee, representing the Sections, meets every Sunday, 10 A. M., in hall of Essex County Socialist Club, 78 Springfield avenue, Newark, N. J.

NEW JERSEY STATE COMMITTEE S. L. P. meets every third Saturday at 8 P. M., at 93 Prospect street, Jersey City. Secretary, George P. Herschaft, 43 Prospect street, Jersey City.

NEW YORK MACHINISTS' LOCAL 274, S. T. & L. A., meets every first and third Tuesday at 8 P. M., at 2 to 4 New Heade street. Secretary Ed. McCormack.

SECTION HARTFORD, S. L. P., meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., at S. L. P. Hall, 892 Main street.

S. T. & L. A. LOCAL NO. 307, meets second Thursday at above hall. Visitors are welcome.

SCANDINAVIAN SECTION, S. L. P., Branch 1, meets second and fourth Sunday of month at 10 o'clock A. M., at 235 E. 38th street. Subscription orders taken for the Scandinavian Socialist weekly, "Arbetaren."

SCANDINAVIAN SECTION, Branch 2, meets first and third Sunday of month, at St. Louis Hall, 443 Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY CLUB, 14th Assembly District. Business meetings every Tuesday evening, 8 P. M., at Club rooms, southwest corner of 11th street and First avenue. Pool parlor open every evening.

SECTION LOS ANGELES, S. L. P. Headquarters and free reading room, 205 1/2 South Main street. Public meetings every Sunday, 8 P. M., 107 1/2 North Main street. PEOPLE agent, L. C. Holler, 205 1/2 South Main street.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY meets every second and fourth Friday, 8 P. M., S. L. P. headquarters, 853 Grand avenue, Westville Branch meets every third Tuesday at St. Joseph's Hall. Visitors welcome.

SECTION CLEVELAND, OHIO, S. L. P. holds public agitation meetings every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at 356 Ontario street, top floor.

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New York Post Office, June 27, 1900.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888..... 2,068
In 1892..... 21,157
In 1896..... 36,564
In 1900..... 34,191



The artisan who is demanding at
this time an eight hours day in the
building trades is simply striving to
recover what his ancestor worked
for four or five centuries ago.

THOROLD ROGERS.

A COMICAL DISTRESS.

The San Francisco, Cal., "Advance,"
a Kangaroo Social Democratic organ,
living in a section of the country where
a good deal of Spanish still pervades the
atmosphere, must be appreciating the
fullness of the homely truth and truthful
homeliness of the Spanish adage regard-
ing the troubles of the man who tries
to extricate himself from the tangle of
a shirt eleven yards long that he has got
himself into. The "eleven-yard shirt"
in this instance is the Kangaroo "Trades
Union attitude," to which fully as many
more yards are added by the recent
San Francisco Trades Union independent
political party, that left the Kangaroo
brigade of San Francisco "borers from
within" beached like a clam at low tide,
after its committee of five had been con-
temptuously allowed to "warm the chairs
in the gallery." The squirmings of the
"Advance" in its attempt to disentangle
itself are odd to witness: it is the man
in the "eleven-yard shirt" over again,
getting his legs caught, tumbling, trying
to rise, tumbling again and finally pre-
sented the picture of a bundle of an-
atomy and dry goods all of a heap.

The "Advance" argues that the San
Francisco Independent Trades Union
Party movement was "a class struggle
manifestation" and "brought out in
sharpest lines the antagonism of inter-
ests between the capitalists and the work-
ingmen." It then proceeds to admit that
all this "class struggle manifestation,"
together with the "sharp lines antagon-
ism," etc., etc., was captured by and
became a cat's paw for the Republican
Party. And it finally philosophizes that
such a mischance was simply the result
of the Kangaroos not having "bored
from within" for a sufficient length of
time and with sufficient intensity: If, it
declares, the Kangs had only started
in early and kept it up long enough, then,
oh, then, "despite all conservative lead-
ers" in the pure and simple unions the
issue would have been a great "Socialist
victory."—What a succession of bum-
pty-bumpty-bumps!

It is undeniable that such a thing is
possible as the uprising of a labor or-
ganization, prompted originally by clearly
felt class antagonisms, being led into
the camp of the very class it meant to
hit, and thus being captured by the very
foe it meant to combat. It is further-
more undeniable that hardly a stirring,
that periodically manifests itself in the
ranks of the rank and file proletariat,
but falls within the category of a class-
prompting: at the same time undeniable
is the fact that all these promptings,
without exception, are led into the
ground, are betrayed to the enemy, by the
"conservative leaders" of pure and
simpledom. The question, accordingly,
resolves itself into this: How to open
the eyes of the rank and file of the
Working Class so as to enable them to
see the "conservative leaders" in their
true light, to know them for what they
are, to treat them as the traitors they
be? This question the Kangaroo Social
Democratic "Advance" answers with:
"Some more, some longer, some intenser
boring from within." In other words,
the eyes of the rank and file are to be
opened, their confidence is to be broken
in their "conservative leaders" by,
what?—by an intenser application of the
Kangaroo plan, the key to which is
the declaration of their own National
Convention that the enormities into
which these identical "conservative lead-
ers" lead the rank and file into are "a
noble waging of the class struggle!"
—The rank and file are to be weaned from
their traditional betrayers by, what?—
by the Kangaroo applause of these iden-

tical betrayers, such applause being the
condition precedent and the condition
subsequent for the tolerance of the
Kangaroo by the "conservative leaders"
in the Hanna-Gompers Trades Union
Movement!

Really, in the act of lashing the
crooked Kangaroo, alias "Multi-Coca,"
alias "Social Democratic," alias "Pande-
monium Socialist," alias "Public Owner-
ship," alias "Socialist" Party man, one
often feels like staying his striking arm:
It is so hard to tell where Kangaroo
imbecility ends, and Kangaroo crooked-
ness begins.

LET THE WORKERS HUSTLE!

The Ship Subsidy bill passed the Sen-
ate with a safe majority. This is one
long step towards its becoming a law,
and thus registering one more stupend-
ous steal, practised upon the National
Treasury. Indeed, in passing, one of the
arguments brazenly made in its favor
was that it was "no worse than so many
others." As far as this feature of the
affair is concerned, the matter would
hardly merit much attention: whether
the millions to be appropriated are left
in the Federal Treasury, or whether
they be invested in more Gatling-gun-
on-paper-dispensing Judges, or in larger
military establishments, or whether they
be plumped into the pockets of a select
coterie of ship-owning capitalists—
what's the odds? The condition of the
Working Class remains the same. After,
as before, the earnings of the working-
man decline, because, after, as before,
their earnings are determined by the
supply and the demand for labor in
the labor market, and, consequently,
after, as before, the bulk of their product
is plundered from them by the Capital-
ist Class. Whatever disposition is made
of the millions to be appropriated, the
root of the system of wage slavery re-
mains unaffected one way or the other.
The disposition of the aforementioned mil-
lions in the treasury is determined mere-
ly by the preponderance, this way or
that way, of this, that, or the other
plundering capitalist concern. That the
said millions—exclusively the product of
Labor—are found in the Treasury and
not in the workingman's pocket is in
itself evidence of their representing
"Plunder." The fight was among the
plunderers for the share of this portion
of the workers' hide. In so far what's
new, odd or surprising in the "Ship
Subsidy"? Nothing. And yet there is
that in the "Ship Subsidy" that takes it
out of the usual run of steals.

When moneys are appropriated for the
River and Harbor, the Public Buildings,
the Canals, and so many other pretences
for steals the moneys do not go directly
into the robbers' private pockets; they
travel thither safely and surely enough,
but they travel thither circuitously. In
this instance, however, the steal goes
thither on a bee-line. In doing so it
damages not a little the anti-Socialist
speeches that the Capitalist Class seeks
to head off Socialism with; and it knocks
into a heap of ruins all capitalist pre-
tences to sincerity and honesty.

The Working Class maintains and
proves that, stripped of the wherewithal
to work with (Capital), it can not hold
its own in the competitive struggle for
existence, and goes down, a wage slave
class, fleeced by its fellow competitors
for life, the Capital-holding or Capitalist
Class. The Working Class programme,
accordingly, is the demand that the Capital
needed to work with be legislated into
the hands of the Working Class. The
very mention of such a programme
throws the Ship Subsidy Class into hyster-
ics: "Un-Americanism!" "Paternalism!"
"Individuality-Killingism!" "Trea-
son!" "Un-Godliness!" such are but a
few of the printable sputters that the
Ship Subsidy Class sputters at the
Working Class demand. What a com-
mentary on capitalist rectitude is not the
Ship Subsidy bill!

The orchestration to which the Ship
Subsidy bill was launched and passed
the Senate is the claim that, stripped of
a Subsidy, these ship-owning capitalists
could not hold their own in the competi-
tion with foreign ship-owners, and have
to go down defeated by their fellow
competitors. In other words, the identi-
cal class, with Hanna as its fagelman,
that cries out anathema against the
workingman's programme of having the
capital he needs in the competitive
struggle for life legislated into his
hands—that identical class turns about
and demands that the capital (subsidy),
which it says it needs in the shipping
trade competitive warfare, be legislated
into its hands!

But even such a spectacle may be said
to be nothing new. What, it may be
asked, can there be new in the line of
Capitalist self-stultification? Who is
there with brains in his head who, for
some time has needed any proof of Capital-
ist inherent baseness, dishonesty, and
fraud? Granting the obvious point,
there would yet remain in this Ship Sub-
sidy performance an eloquent object les-
son to be profited by. It is this:

Without Capital the competitor goes
down: Therefore—woe to that competi-
tor who is not in the possession of the
Public Powers: Only that competitor
who is able to himself legislate, ex-

perimize and judicialize the requisite Capital
into his own hands—in other words,
who has placed himself on the right side
of the guns—has any show: To-day
only the Capitalist Class is there, con-
sequently it legislates, etc., INTO ITS
OWN HANDS: Let the Working Class
hustle, bounce the Capitalist Class and
get there itself.

THEY NOW CALL IT "WIN-
NETKA."

A few years ago every freak in the
land was shouting "Initiative and Refer-
endum." The "Initiative and Referen-
dum" was to be the panacea for all so-
cial ills. Indeed, it was huckstered about
in regular patent medicine style: war-
ranted to cure after one or two applica-
tions. The craze lulled, and finally was
heard of but little. It is now up again.
Like all crazes, this one now turns up
under a new name: the "Winnetka Sys-
tem." At all points it is the same old
corrupt, only re-rigged in fresh furbel-
lows. It may seem tiresome, it is in-
structive all the same to re-submit such
crazes to the scalpel, every time they
reappear. Being plausible absurdities
their exposure serves the purpose of rec-
tifying thought; being vicious conceits
the squelching of them serves the pur-
pose of clearing the path of rubbish.

The germ of truth that makes the
"Initiative and Referendum," alias "Win-
netka System," plausible is the truism
that the people should rule themselves;
the germ of falsehood that makes the
thing vicious is the suggestion of mys-
tical powers in the suffrage and the form
in which it is exercised. Plausibility
and mysticism shaken up together pro-
duce a fetid compound. So in this case.

The ballot is a form of civilized dis-
cussion among masses. It is all that,
but it is not more. There is, accord-
ingly, in the ballot no more intelligence than
in the person who casts it. The "Initia-
tive," etc., alias "Winnetka System,"
implies a denial of this cardinal truth.
It attributes to the ballot, cast in a cer-
tain way, occult powers; starting upon
such foundation, the "Winnetka Sys-
tem," alias "Initiative," etc., reaches a
series of preposterous conclusions, which
schemers, always acting upon an unerr-
ing instinct, quickly seize upon, and seek
to turn to the Capitalist use of turning
the Labor Movement awry.

Whatever is true and useful in the
"Winnetka System," alias "Initiative
and Referendum" is now in full opera-
tion. The annual, in many cases semi-
annual elections in the land, are, in that
respect, essential "Winnetkas." What
does the "Winnetka" propose? That
laws shall not be passed without the con-
sent of the citizens: a proposed law is
submitted to the voters: if approved it
passes, if disapproved it is rejected.
What essential difference is there be-
tween that and our present elections? He
who has ears to hear, or eyes to see,
can, at every election, hear and see the
question: "Citizens are you satisfied with
the laws that have been passed? If you
are, vote back into power the parties
that have passed such laws; if you are
not satisfied, vote them down and out." It
is mysticism of the most vicious na-
ture to imagine that people, the ears
and eyes of whose intellects are so
stopped that they will regularly answer
the above question in the affirmative by
voting back into power the parties who
have uniformly legislated bad laws, will
suddenly have ears and eyes clear enough
to vote with greater intelligence upon the
laws themselves. It is this vicious mys-
ticism that brands all "Winnetkas" as
mischievous; it is this their mischievous
feature that renders them permanently
attractive to the crooks.

Obviously, it is not the method of
voting that needs and deserves the at-
tention of honest men. What needs and
deserves their individual attention is the
method of clearing the sight and hear-
ing of the voters. Then, "Winnetkas"
or no "Winnetkas," suffrage or no suf-
frage, the citizens would quickly and
effectively enough sweep bad laws, to-
gether with their breeders, into the po-
litical and social scrap-heap.

It is by reason of this very fact that
"Winnetkas" periodically bob up. Their
purpose is to draw attention and energy,
away from the path that leads to re-
sults, into the paths that lead to quag-
mires. Accordingly, it is no wonder that
all "Winnetkas" come accompanied
with such mischievous stupidities as
"non-partisanship": every man, unless
fit for the lunatic asylum, is a "parti-
san": to be a "partisan" is to have a
"purpose": who but idiots act purpose-
lessly? Accordingly, it is no wonder that
the Hannaized American Federation of
Labor, with its scabby Tampa deputy
sheriffs, its scabby check-off system, its
raft of scabby decoy-duck placemen in
the capitalist Government, carefully
avoids filling its printed space with edu-
cational matter, that would clarify
the minds of the workers on the workings
of the capitalist system. If it did that,
it would be aiding the work of teaching
the workers how to use the ballot they
now hold and snout their capitalist fleec-
ers under an avalanche of votes, and
rear the Socialist Republic. Instead, it
prints thick "supplements" with "Win-
netka System" slush. The sneer taken

up in a man's mind with slush, is not
available for sense.

What new name will the lure take
next?

Mr. Ho Yow, in pleading for entrance
for the Chinese to this country, spoke
with Oriental simplicity and directness,
but thereby made a grave mistake. He
said that Chinese labor was of the ut-
most advantage to employers, at whose
instigation laws are passed. He can see
all right, but he has much to learn in
keeping control of his thoughts. It is
evident to all but scholars, pure and
simpliciter, experts, capitalist editorial
writers, and Digger Indians that all
laws are passed by and for the employ-
ing class, but it is the rankest kind of
Socialism to say so and then act in ac-
cordance to the saying.

Bishop Potter deprecates the tendency
to criticize city officials, either for what
they have done in the past three months,
or for what they are doing or not doing.
Three months are long enough to form
an estimate in, and as at present ad-
ministration has done nothing, and ap-
parently is doing nothing, the Bishop's plea
was simply so much protection for them.
He was one of those who chorused loud-
est in the great Tammany hunt, and he
did not hesitate to drag game from out
the City Hall, or to criticize departments
in which game might lurk. So to beg
immunity for the present administration
is proof that the former zeal was prompt-
ed by something other than a spirit of
civic righteousness.

The subject of food adulteration shows
the tottering and almost helpless condi-
tion of modern science in dealing with
important questions, and the same sub-
jects show the ability of the business
man in taking advantage either of skill
or ignorance. Dr. Wiley, who was called
before the House Committee on Com-
merce made some startling statements.
He said that the glucose used in the ad-
ulteration of food products is wholesome.
He said that while his statement to this
effect had at first been ridiculed, his con-
tention was now admitted by food ex-
perts. Dr. Wiley showed the committee
several kinds of jellies made from the
peelings and cores of apples, chemically
colored and flavored to represent different
fruit jellies. Dr. Wiley added that the
by-products of the apples from which
the jellies were made are shipped to
Europe and used in the making of cham-
pagne. An "Ohio wine," made from coal
tar dye, sugar and alcohol, and contain-
ing absolutely none of the products of
the vine, was next shown. Dr. Wiley
gave instances where manufacturers were
themselves deceived by coal tar dyes,
which were represented as pure vege-
table dyes. That is business.

English papers are aroused to the fact
that Ireland is really not so content as
Englishmen persistent in telling Irish-
men she is. Agitation has been going
on for some time, and has done much
to arouse the Irish people. As the agi-
tation is the same old kind, and as the
objects are the same old objects, it is
impossible that anything good come of it.
Irish leaders have run Irish revolt into
the ground with monotonous regularity.
The only thing ever accomplished was to
give more work to that great pacifier,
the hangman.

The Tobacco Trust has fleeced its
workers to such an extent that it is able
to go to England with \$30,000,000 with
which to take from the English firms
their tobacco trade. This enormous sum
represents the life blood of thousands of
men, women and children. It repre-
sents the systematic stealing that has
gone on, and shows how deep the em-
ployer cuts into the product of the
worker.

It is a lesson in high-handed robbery,
in downright murder. What the Tobacco
Trust does all other trusts do also, and
all employers of labor do, each accord-
ing to its ability.

"Organized Labor" of San Francisco,
California, adds another count to the in-
dictment of the Civic Federation, and
also of the pure and simple trades union
movement. It says that the N. C. F.
"settled" the strike of the machinists,
and settled it so thoroughly that the
heads of the men are yet swimming.
They are not sure whether it was an ax
or an "amicable arrangement" that laid
them low, but laid low they are, and it
hurts. "Organized Labor" devotes a
whole page to this and calls it the crime
of the century. That is wrong; the crime
of this century and of last century was
the waste of the intelligence and energy
of the working class that the trades
unions endured, has made possible, and
forwarded. "Organized Labor" did and
is doing not a little in this respect.

The evasion of a child labor law is
one of the easiest and best paying things
in the world. England has strict laws
relative to the employment of children,
but they are overridden as though they
never existed. For example: a com-
mittee recently reported to the Home
Secretary of England their finding for
the year 1898. In that year there were
in all 350,000 children of school age who
were employed for at least 20 hours a
week. These same children also went to
school, but as the exactions of business
are greater than the exactions of a school,
it is safe to say that the attendance
of those children at school was only a sham
and a bluff. They were there to pre-
vent their masters from being arrested;
they were not there to learn. Their pres-
ence at school was in reality an addition-
al task, an imposition, on them. Yet
the smug and satisfied English factory
owner, or shop keeper, in common with
his brother in similar branches in other
lands, will pat himself contentedly at
the thought that the children are get-
ting an "education." He makes money
out of their "education" the same as
he does out of everything else.

If you are getting this paper with-
out having ordered it, do not re-
fuse it. Someone has paid for your
subscription. Renew when it ex-
pires.

MANIFESTATIONS OF PRO-
SPERITY.

Prosperity is peculiar in its working.
It discloses strange and unexpected
phenomena. The newspapers and the
professors picture a glorious palace
crowded with all manner of precious
things towering up and up with the
American eagle perched on the top and
screaming a triumphant victory to the
other smaller birds and beasts on the
other smaller towers. But within there
is anxiety, and running to and fro,
doubts are freely expressed as to the
structural stability of the edifice, and
now and again the all-present dread
voices itself in the openly expressed
fear that "the niggers may break the
hatches."

The professors and the journalists are
not truthful. They lie, come from igno-
rance, some from malice aforethought,
and others, and these, the majority,
because they have to. They have mort-
gaged themselves to the devil and they
must lie to live, for in the majority of
cases they dare not die. So they paint
beautiful pictures which they have to
admit are potboilers and intended to
defraud, they fake statistics which their
employers in self defence have after-
wards to disown, and they behave so
stupidly and shortsightedly that the
news of each month is contradicted by
the facts of the next. Why do they
not tell the truth? Because to do so
would be to throw up the sponge, it
would be to admit that the criticisms
against which they have hurled all the
force of church, state, and a highly paid
staff of professors, are in reality true,
that the social structure is rotten, that
its foundations are sapped and that the
only reason for its continued existence
is the fact that it is maintained for the
profit of a limited class.

Attention has been called in these
columns before to the remarkable
growth in the number of suicides. The
reason of this increase has been pointed
out and the truth hammered home. But,
as usual, the enemy themselves furnish
the best instances, and at the same time
the best reasons for this state of things.
Incidentally one of the most humorous
facts of the present system is the ever-
fresh truth that the hard-headed, eager,
unimaginative trader and manufacturer
nearly always blunderingly contradicts the
laboriously constructed hypotheses and
conclusions of his paid advocates, thus it
is a real joy to a Socialist to hear a
capitalist begin to reckon with regard
to a new venture precisely as Marx says
that he does, and to see the form of that
much maligned and voluminously com-
bated surplus value sticking out all
through the computations. So, with the
matter of the growth of suicide. The
capitalist concerns themselves furnish
not only the best data, but unconsciously
the best explanation of the phenomenon.

One large insurance company in its
annual report indulges in certain ad-
missions on the subject of suicide, which
are in themselves sufficiently en-
tertaining, and which show a futile and
absurdly inadequate attempt on the part
of these greater capitalists to account
for a phenomenon which is to say the
very least alarming; for if people are
beginning in increasing numbers to find
life so intolerable that they hasten to
relieve themselves of the burden by re-
linquishing, what has up to this time
been universally considered as the dearest
and the most valuable of all posses-
sions, namely, life itself, the end of a
system which renders such a condition
of things possible may reasonably be
presumed to be closer at hand than is
commonly supposed. The report men-
tioned says:

"The increase in suicides, as shown
by the statistics collected with great
care by the 'Chicago Tribune' is simply
startling. In 1891 there were 3,331 sui-
cides, and in 1901 7,425, an increase of
105 per cent, while the increase of the
population for the last decade has been
20 per cent. only. Of the 7,425 suicides
in 1901, only 674 are ascribed to insan-
ity, 6,751 to ill-health.

"I am convinced from my observation
that suicides, although for prudential
reasons frequently specified in the proofs
of loss as accidental deaths, has in-
creased among insured lives at least 200
per cent. during the last decade. While
suicides from insanity and ill-health
should not void claims, and never do in
any well-managed company, public mor-
tality and the uplift of humanity, com-
mon honesty and equity demand that
willful or intentional suicides should re-
nder claims void; but as these are not
always easy to distinguish from unin-
tentional suicides, it is necessary for a
life company to have a clause by which
a suicide is a risk not assumed the first
two years.

"The records of several companies
show that the admitted suicides, and
those covered by some other alleged
cause, during the first two policy years
are as great in number as they are in the
next ten years. THIS IS ITSELF
DEMONSTRATES THAT SUICIDE
IS FREQUENTLY CONTEMPLATED
AT THE TIME INSURANCE IS
APPLIED FOR. It is the cowardly
device of the degenerate or criminal to
make provision for those whom he has
wronged or neglected."

The caps are mine, but they contain the
gist of the report. The insurance com-
pany as a result of its investigations into
the circumstances surrounding the death
of suicides who have insured themselves
has arrived at the conclusion that such
suicides have in an increasing number of
instances taken up their policies with
the reserved intention of committing sui-
cide. Such a conclusion is to say the
very least staggering, for it points to a
sort of commerce in life and investment
in securities the value of which cannot
be realized except by the death of the
investor.

Here is a new and hitherto very un-
common method of providing for a fam-
ily and a method which by its growth
appears to be reckoned as of at least
some efficacy. "Greater love hath no
man than this, that he lay down his life
for his friend," declares the old Chris-
tian teacher, an ideal of devotion which
will become so common on the part of
fathers of families as to render it one

of the truest commonplaces of ordinary
respectability should this suicide ten-
dency continue to spread. If it proves
as a matter of fact that suicide is really
the most effective manner of providing
for a family, a new ethical standard
with reference to suicide must be adopt-
ed, and the bridegroom and proud father
may be able to comfort himself that he
will be considered to have performed his
duty should he commit hari-kari for the
sake of his family.

But in reality the question opens up a
vista of misery that is beyond descrip-
tion, horrible to contemplate. The men
who insure are for the most part, in fact
altogether provident and prudent men.
They place the welfare of their families
and nearer relations above and beyond
all considerations of their own immedi-
ate comfort, for the payment of a premi-
um necessitates a certain amount of
self-sacrifice, that self-sacrifice in fact
which only a very short time ago was
considered to be a virtue of the very
highest degree, and in praise of which
the inimitable Samuel Smiles wrote a
book which brought him fame and
money, which book, with its title of
"Thrifty," is one of the works most pleas-
ing to the typical bourgeois. The strain
which compels such a man to leave his
family and to go out alone into the dark
void must be greater than the ordinary
person can have any comprehension of,
it must require the greatest possible as-
surance of the ethical worth of his act
to persuade such a man to take such a
step, and the fact that it is being taken
in ever increasing numbers by men of
this type is a fact which contains the
strongest indictment ever brought against
this state of society.

The insurance company dubs suicide
under these conditions as "the cowardly
device of the degenerate or criminal."
This is the purest sort of nonsense and
as a matter of fact does not come within
a thousand miles of accounting for the
thing. In the first place such suicide
cannot by any stretch of the imagina-
tion be called cowardly. Were it intend-
ed to escape the evils which threatened
ones own person or peace of mind the
expression might conceivably be defend-
ed. But in this case the suicide contem-
plates the well-being of others and dies
to accomplish that well-being. In war
they call that heroism, and frequently
decorate the corpse in token of their
appreciation.

One of the Hearst papers, which are
nothing if not "moral," had this to say
the other day upon this matter:
"Every man who commits suicide con-
fesses a lack of courage, confesses fail-
ure, he confesses that he is too much
of a coward to continue the struggle
which is the foundation of existence on
earth."

But suppose that the man is not a
coward but that he knows that he is
beaten, that the forces against which
he has to contend are too much for him
and that the only chance which he can
find for his family is the chance that he
can give them by his own death and the
possession of the insurance money. This
baldness of the yellow papers is simply
the old ethical view of the matter,
it does not in the least help us to
solve a problem such as is presented in
the report of the insurance company.

The insurance company is still fur-
ther afield when it applies the general
term "degenerates" and "criminals" to
those who commit suicide after insur-
ing themselves. The insurance people
themselves take care that they are not
degenerates for they subject all appli-
cants to a strict physical examination be-
fore admitting them as policy holders, are
particular to enquire into their actual
habits, false information concerning
which is sufficient to void the policy.
And the charge of criminality is banal
to the last degree, for most assuredly
no insurance company will, except after
very close examination of the circum-
stances, even venture to admit as a
policy holder anyone against whom the
least accusation of criminality in the
proper significance of the term could
exist for five minutes.

There does not in any way appear an
escape from the conclusion that the sui-
cides which the company complains of
are well-meaning and discreet heads of
families who have paid their insurance
money in good faith and intended to
provide for the unexpected
contingencies of life in the ordinary man-
ner. But the economic conditions have
crushed them and they commit suicide
as the best solution of the question of
the immediate subsistence of those near
and dear to them.

And in spite of the much vaunted
prosperity the number of those so com-
mitting suicide is continually on the
increase.

AUSTIN LEWIS.

San Francisco, Cal.

Political and Economic.

The "Washington Post" sums up
Southern patriotism as follows:

"Brownlow," said Representative
Slayden of Texas to his Tennessee col-
league, "I have a little bill here for
which I want your help."
"All right," said Brownlow, prompt-
ly. "You shall have it."
"But let me tell you what the bill is
for," said Slayden.
"That's not necessary," replied Brown-
low. "It asks for an appropriation?"
"Yes."
"And the money goes South?"
"Yes."
"Then I'm for it."

That would be just as true if a man
from the North, East, or West, were
substituted for the Southerner.

The S. D. Official Organ.

The members of Branch 2, Socialist
Party of Hoboken, adopted the follow-
ing resolutions at their meeting on Tues-
day last:

"Whereas, The Socialist Party is in
thorough accord with and endorses the
organization of labor into trade unions;
therefore be it

"Resolved, That we, the Socialists of
Branch 2, Hoboken, insist upon having
the union label upon all goods turned
out by union organizations and purchased
by us.

"Resolved, further, That this resolu-
tion be sent by the secretary to 'The
Observer,' 'The Worker,' and 'The Volks-
zeitung.'"



Uncle Sam and Brother Jonathan

BROTHER JONATHAN.—I believe
in a unification of reform forces.

UNCLE SAM.—So do I; but 'hat can't
be until unless they are agreed upon a
common cause.

B. J.—But they are now.

U. S.—Not much!

B. J.—Would not the Socialist like to
see the banker abolished?

U. S.—Yes.

B. J.—Very well. And does not Bryan
want to down the banker?

U. S.—Guess it does.

B. J.—We don't need to go any fur-
ther. Here you have two reform forces
agreed upon downing one and the same
thing or person. Why not join forces?

U. S.—Capt. Kidd was a big pirate,
wasn't he?

B. J.—And no mistake.

RESULT OF THE GENERAL VOTE

On the Question of Abolishing the Board of Trustees Form of Organization for the Administration of the Party Press and Placing the Control of the same directly under the National Executive Committee.

NAME OF SECTIONS.	Proposition No. 1 of the N. E. C.	Proposition No. 2 of the N. E. C.	Proposition No. 3 of the N. E. C.	Amendment of Section Boston.	Amendment of Section Chicago.	Amendment of Section Denver.	Amendment No. 1 of Section Detroit.	Amendment No. 2 of Section Detroit.	Amendment No. 3 of Section Detroit.	Amendment No. 4 of Section Detroit.	Amendment No. 5 of Section Detroit.	Amendment of Section East St. Louis.	Amendment of Section Everett.	Amendment of Section Tacoma.
	For.	Against.	For.	Against.	For.	Against.	For.	Against.	For.	Against.	For.	Against.	For.	Against.
ARIZONA	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
LOUISIANA	26	1	26	1	26	1	26	1	26	1	26	1	26	1
Los Angeles Co.	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
San Francisco	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
Members at Large	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
COLORADO	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Denver	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Pueblo	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Mesa County	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
CONNECTICUT	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Hartford	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
New Britain	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
New Haven	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Bridgeport	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
South Norwalk	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Members at Large	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
ILLINOIS	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Belleville	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Chicago	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Collinsville	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
E. St. Louis	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Jacksonville	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Springfield	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Members at Large	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
INDIANA	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Indianapolis	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Logansport	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Members at Large	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
KENTUCKY	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Louisville	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
MASSACHUSETTS	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Adams	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Boston	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
Cambridge	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Everett	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Fall River	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Lawrence	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Lynn	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Malden	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Medford	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Fitchfield	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Salem	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Somerville	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Springfield	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Taunton	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Worcester	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Members at Large	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
MICHIGAN	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Detroit	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Holland	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Members at Large	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
MINNESOTA	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Minneapolis	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Red Wing	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
St. Paul	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Winona	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Members at Large	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
MISSOURI	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
St. Louis	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
NEBRASKA	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Lincoln	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
NEW JERSEY	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
Essex County	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Hoboken	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
North Hudson	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Passaic County	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
South Hudson	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Union County	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
NEW YORK	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
Albany County	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Amsterdam	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Auburn	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Brooklyn	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Gloversville	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Monroe County	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Newburgh	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
New York	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
New York County	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Oneida County	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Onondaga County	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Rensselaer County	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Richmond County	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Schenectady	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Westchester County	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Members at Large	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
OHIO	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Akron	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Butler	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Canton	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Cincinnati	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Cleveland	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Columbus	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Members at Large	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
PENNSYLVANIA	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Allentown	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98
Allegheny County	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Bethlehem	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Easton	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Hawthorn	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Connersport	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Montgomery County	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Pottsville	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Philadelphia	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Quakertown	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Scranton	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Scrantonville	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Wick Haven	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Members at Large	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
RHODE ISLAND	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Providence	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Woonsocket	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
UTAH	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Salt Lake City	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
TEXAS	22	22	22	22										